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Champion

27 September 2017 Vol 24 • Issue 39 www.champnews.com

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PULL-OUT AND KEEP SUPPLEMENT INSIDE

Hunt for attackers after man knifed in attempted street robbery

A MAN suffered minor knife wounds to his back following an attempted robbery in Skelmersdale.

The incident occurred at around 11pm on Friday, September 22 on Feltons, Birch Green when the two male victims, aged 32 and 35, were approached by four other men and ordered to hand over money.

When one of the victims refused he was threatened with a craft knife-type weapon.

He attempted to disarm the offender who was holding the knife, at which point a second offender slashed him to his lower back, causing a minor cut.

The victims then fled the scene.

The four male offenders are described as around 5ft 5ins tall, or shorter, and all wearing dark clothing with hoods up and their faces covered. They all spoke with local accents.

The weapons are described as craft or wallpaper knives that did not appear to have handles.

DC Peter Macdonald, of Skelmersdale Police, said: "The victim has been left shaken after being threatened and suffering a slash wound to his back. Thankfully his injuries have not required further treatment.

"We would now like to hear from anyone with information which can help with our enquiries. Maybe you know who the offenders might be, or perhaps you were in the area at the time and saw something suspicious.

"If you know anything at all we would like to hear from you."

Anybody with information is asked to contact police on 101, quoting log number 1733 of September 22.

REFUGE FOUNDER BOWS OUT AFTER THREE DECADES

THE woman who founded the West Lancashire Women's Refuge in Skelmersdale 30 years ago has bowed out as chief executive - with a departing plea to the government to do more to help fund it and smilar charities.

Report by **Henry James**

For the last three decades Eleanor Maddocks - who set up the refuge following her own life experiences - has been the driving force keeping the centre together.

And she firmly believes there is a need for more places across the country to help women who have been the victims of domestic violence.

She said: "Having to say 'no' to families over the years and telling them we couldn't accommodate them has been very difficult. We can only cater for so many.

"At refuges up and down the county there should be more spaces available. There should be more provision.

"Two women a week are murdered as a result of domestic violence in this country and there have been many unnecessary deaths over the years. Refuges should receive central funding from the government.

"It can also have a traumatic effect on children as well. Children can witness the abuse, or they can be abused themselves."

A taxi firm in Liverpool Road, Skelmersdale lent the refuge its first unit in the summer of 1987, while Eleanor and colleagues had the job of fundraising, and collecting clothes for women who had been victims of domestic abuse.

In the first year they raised £1,000 through a number of events, including raffles.

Eleanor added: "At the start it was difficult as domestic violence was not properly recognised by the authorities. There were organisations such as Women's Aid, but they didn't have a base in West Lancashire.

Eleanor Maddocks with friends and colleagues at her retirement party

"We contacted health visitors and solicitors to ask them if they had come across women and children who were experiencing domestic violence in the borough and they came back and said there was a need for a refuge in West Lancashire.

Continued inside

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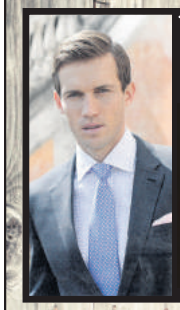
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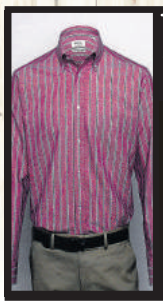
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Students vote Edge Hill accommodation best value for money

EDGE Hill University has won yet another award after being crowned the Best Value for Money Student Accommodation in the UK.

Record numbers of home and international students - more than 34,000 - voted in the National Student Housing Survey Awards 2017.

And as well as scooping the top spot for value for money, Edge Hill was also named in the top three universities for the overall Best Student Accommodation.

Special

The award comes in the wake of the Ormskirk university being named the Best Accommodation at the Whatuni Student Choice Awards.

Kate McAdam, Edge Hill's head of Accommodation Services, said: "We're delighted our accommodation has won another top award. This award is particularly special as it's voted for by students, there are no nominations and no expert judges.

Kate McAdam and Edge Hill vice-chancellor, Dr John Cater with the award in front of the new Woodland town houses which the students have just moved into

"Our halls of residence are at the heart of our vibrant campus community providing a safe environment for students to live, study and socialise.

"We strive to provide the best accommodation in terms of facilities and design at the best possible price for our students so it's fantastic they've recognised this commitment."

The National Student Housing Survey Awards run by Red Brick Research and University Business has been running since 2008.

● *University wins student retention accolade - Page 15.*

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Councillor defends his contribution to borough despite ranking bottom of attendance 'league table'!

"My value to the council is trying to articulate the ambition we have and talking to key partners in the public and private sector"

COUNCILLOR Frank McKenna has defended his contribution to West Lancs Borough Council after attendance figures released showed that he only attended 21% of the authority's meetings for the period from September 1, 2016 to September 12 this year.

Report by **Henry James**

The Labour representative for the Birch Green ward, who took a basic allowance from the council of £4,842 in the financial year 2016/17, is also listed as being absent from full council meetings in April, June and July.

However. Cllr. McKenna, who is also on the estates revival cabinet working group, the executive overview & scrutiny committee and the Skelmersdale town centre borough county liaison group, claimed the statistics were "misleading."

He said: "My contribution to West Lancashire is outside of the meetings held by West Lancashire Borough Council.

Partners

"I represent the borough council on the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority. I have also attended many meetings outside of the formal West Lancashire Borough Council meetings with our Skelmersdale town centre partners.

"I have represented the council at a number of external meetings trying to attract inward investment for the borough as well.

"I have also held many meetings with the media and political leaders at Lancashire County Council representing the local enterprise partnership and several interested parties putting together our vision for West Lancashire.

"My value to the council is trying to articulate the ambition we have and talking to key partners in the public and private sector.

"If an issue concerning Birch Green was mentioned at the council. I would be at the meeting.

Mistake

"I would also like to point out that I only claim the councillor's basic allowance.

"I am confident that my overall contribution is significant and influential."

The only other councillor with an attendance record below 50% during the same time period was Skelmersdale South Labour representative Nicola Pryce-Roberts (39%).

Councillor Pryce-Roberts responded: "Attendance at meetings does not represent the full picture of the work of a councillor.

"It does not show the work I do day and night for constituents. If I am not able to attend a meeting it is because of professional reasons.

Councillor Frank McKenna

Councillor Nicola Pryce-Roberts

"Also, these figures do not show the meetings which I have attended on behalf of colleagues."

She also said her low attendance figure was due to a mistake with the committees she had been assigned to.

Councillors with 100% attendance records were: Malcolm Barron (Conservative, North Meols); Sam Currie (Conservative, Aughton & Downholland); Ian Davis (Our West Lancashire, Derby); John Gordon (Conservative, Rufford); Nikki Hennessey (Labour, Knowsley); John Mee (Conservative, Tarleton); Marilyn Westley (Conservative, Aughton Park); and Chris Wynn (Labour, Digmoor).

Derby ward Councillor Adrian Owens, leader of the Our West Lancashire group, who had an attendance figure of 93%, said: "After OWL moved a council motion last year, West Lancashire finally caught up with many other councils and started publishing councillor attendance records.

"Now after 12 months we've brought together those councillor attendance records. Most have good attendances, but for others they'd likely be in serious hot water if they were a school pupil or employee!"

Refuge founder steps down after 30 years supporting families affected by domestic violence

From Page 1

"In that first year West Lancashire Borough Council were supportive and through them we received a four-bedroomed property which we could use within the borough and we took in nine families.

"Louise Ellman, who was leader at Lancashire County Council at the time, was very helpful, as was the housing director at the borough council."

Securing funding for the centre has been a constant battle for Eleanor and, over the years it has been threatened with closure a few times.

She said: "I have had to chase funding all the time. As soon as we received 12 months funding we have to start again preparing the next bid.

Renamed

"A big part of my role has been been bidding for funding. When the funding has run out there have been closure threats but we have come through that."

In recent years the refuge has been renamed the Liberty Centre to encompass the other services they offer, including outreach workers for adults, children and men who have been victims of domestic violence.

Eleanor's retirement was marked with a send-off at the Greenhill Community Centre in Skelmersdale.

But she is confident the centre will continue to perform an invaluable service to the community.

She said: "I believe I have set out what I wanted to achieve in 1987 but it would not have been possible without the support of my family and team.

"I am leaving the centre in good hands. The staff and the board of trustees can now carry on where I left off."

Civic seal of approval for Midstream's new cafe

DEPUTY Mayor and Mayoress of West Lancashire, Councillor Noel Delaney and Ann Stubbert performed the official opening of the new café and Summer Fayre at Midstream (West Lancs) Ltd. in Penrose Place, Skelmersdale on Monday, September 25.

The cafe, which can cater for around 70 visitors, provides real life work and training opportunities in catering and hospitality for young people and adults with learning disabilities.

Roles include, front of house, taking food orders, preparing and serving food and drinks and servicing tables.

The cafe offers a range of freshly-prepared meals, cakes and drinks, including a barista coffee service, all set in a peaceful oasis where customers can relax within the beautiful garden surroundings.

The cafe was officially opened by Cllr. Delaney, who, in keeping with the Midstream's horticultural services, used a pair of gardening shears to cut the ribbon!

Following the opening, Midstream staff and students hosted an autumn gift fair where they sold gifts created in the on-site craft and horticulture departments.

Councillor Delaney cuts the ribbon watched by deputy mayoress, Ann Stubbert and Midstream chief executive, Anita Cooke

Catering instructor, Gill Hayes, said: "It was lovely to see so many families, friends and local businesses at the opening event. Students working in the new cafe will be able to learn new skills and gain qualifications in a supportive environment. I am really looking forward to extending a warm welcome to all."

The cafe is open from 9am until 4.30pm Monday to Friday.

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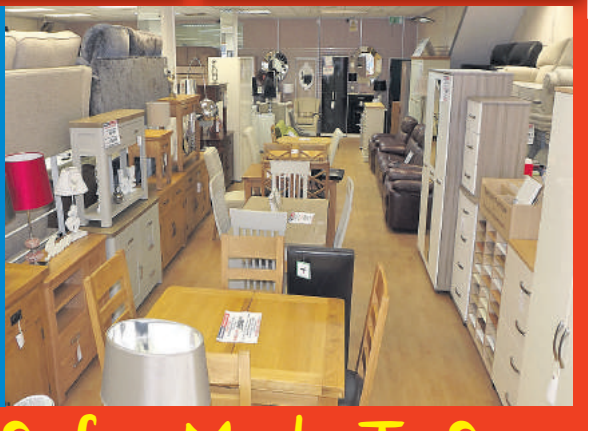

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Maharishi School director dies after cancer battle

A RESIDENT of Skelmersdale for almost 30 years who lobbied for the expansion of the Maharishi School and its conversion to a Free School has died at the age of 62.

Richard Scott, executive director of the school, passed away on September 18 after suffering from cancer.

While the Maharishi School, which has a primary base at Lathom and a secondary base in Skelmersdale, was an independent school, Mr Scott participated in raising tens of thousands of pounds to enable the enrolment of pupils who otherwise would not be able to attend.

As part of this aim to make the school available to everyone, he was instrumental in the successful application for it to become a Free School in September 2011.

Mr Scott was a keen walker and mountaineer and particularly enjoyed climbing in the Alps. Consequently, when the Maharishi Free School was recognised as a regional centre for the Duke of Edinburgh Award, he was a leading supporter of all aspects of the award, especially giving his time and energy to outdoor pursuits.

Vision

In addition to being great fun, he saw the DoE award as a means to allow pupils to demonstrate talents, such as leadership and team-building, which they may not show in the classroom.

Dr Derek Cassells, a former headteacher of the Maharishi School who still works there, said: "Richard was driven by a desire to create a system of education which unfolded the full talents and potential of every pupil. He resolved that the fulfillment of his vision would be to implement the system of education known as Consciousness-based Education, used by schools throughout the world. His focus on the development of the talents of every pupil permeated everything that he did for the schools.

"Richard was a presence in the lives of all those who knew him; even with his passing his presence remains."

Mr Scott leaves his wife Claire and five children and two step-children.

Richard Scott

Evington, Tanhouse

Council tenant evicted after police called to tackle three 'serious disturbances' in four months at property

A WEST Lancs Council tenant has been evicted after police had to tackle three serious disturbances at his home in four months and for failing to keep his home in good condition.

Wigan County Court heard that on the third occasion police were called after claims by someone in the house that a gang of up to 15 males were threatening to smash down the door of the maisonette at Evington in Tanhouse, Skelmersdale.

However, when police tried to get information from the tenant, 39-year-old Steven Miller, and other people in the property as to who was involved, they refused to provide a written statement.

Local authority staff had warned Miller after the first two incidents that he and people living at his home were causing upset to neighbours, as well as wasting the time of the emergency services.

The council had also become aware that at least one drug user was a close associate and he was told that if he had drug users and criminals at the property then trouble would inevitably follow and the council would hold him responsible.

After this warning the council was advised by police that they had seen Mr Miller's home in a 'chaotic' state, and there were dangerous, uncapped needles.

The local authority felt this was potentially a serious breach of his tenancy agreement as it was a risk to the health and safety of council staff, contractors, police, neighbouring tenants and the occupants.

Councillor Kevin Wright

Miller agreed to an inspection of the property but failed to keep the appointment and a week later an associate told council staff that he was in hospital.

When Miller failed to respond to further attempts by the council to arrange an inspection, and police had to deal with the third disturbance, staff began eviction proceedings.

The court granted possession of the property back to the council and Miller was evicted. He was not at the property when the eviction took place.

Responsible

Councillor Kevin Wright, West Lancs Council's portfolio holder for community safety, said: "Tenants are responsible for the behaviour of people coming to their homes and the council takes its role in trying to ensure peace on our housing estates very seriously so that residents can quietly enjoy their homes.

"Tenants could face legal action if people visiting them behave in an anti-social manner."

And Councillor Jenny Forshaw, portfolio holder for housing and landlord services, added: "Tenants are responsible for keeping their properties in a good condition. Failing to do so is a clear breach of the tenancy agreement. When this was combined with the disturbances at the property the council took appropriate action to evict Mr Miller."

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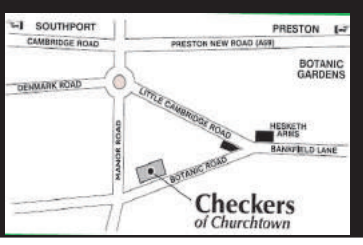

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Fitting send-off for Dunkirk veteran

Ex-Services Association and Royal British Legion team up to provide military guard of honour at Len's funeral

Report by **Kenny Parker**

A DUNKIRK veteran who was a fixture at Remembrance services in the area for fallen colleagues for many years has been given a fitting, military-themed send-off following a family appeal.

When former Royal Army Service Corps driver, Len Ellis passed away at the age of 97, his daughter Tracey Hillon was determined to give him an appropriate funeral reflecting his wartime experiences.

However, as her dad had outlived most of his contemporaries she feared the service would lack a suitable military presence.

But when members of the Skelmersdale Ex-Services Association heard of Tracey's dilemma they quickly offered their services to provide a guard of honour.

And they were joined on the day by local members of the Royal British Legion to give Len what Tracey described as a "magnificent" send-off at his funeral at Christ Church, Aughton on Friday (September 22).

She said: "My dad would have loved his send off. Thank-you to the Skelmersdale Ex Services Association and the Royal British Legion for their magnificent guard of honour.

"Dad got exactly the kind of send off he would have wanted and we were delighted with the military presence."

Tracey offered special thanks also to Dave Knowles, secretary of the Skem vets group, and also to Julie Daley and staff at Aughton Park Care Home, and Reverend John Sephton and his team.

Dave Knowles said: "Mr Ellis served his time and we feel, as an ex-servicemen's association, it is our duty to see the gentleman off in a fit and proper way."

For years Len had faithfully attended Remembrance services for fallen comrades, reading out the Exhortation at Ormskirk's Clock Tower and Parish Church.

Originally from Anfield, he moved to West Lancashire after the war with his wife Kathleen, whom he met while they were both stationed in Shrewsbury. After bringing up their children Peter, Chris, Steve and Tracey in Aughton, the couple later moved to County Road in Ormskirk where Kathleen died in 2011 aged 91.

Medals

Before his evacuation from Dunkirk, Len was a driver with the Royal Army Service Corps where his 6ft 4in frame earned him the jocular nickname of Tiny!

He served the remainder of the war in Palestine, Egypt and South Africa and was awarded numerous medals.

After leaving the army, Len worked in sales but the Dunkirk experience was always a part of his life. He became both vice-chairman and vice-president of the Dunkirk Veterans Association, returning to France many times and being presented with a medal by the Mayor of Dunkirk.

His story of how he escaped Dunkirk can be found in the BBC's WW2 Peoples War archive.

Entitled 'Home from Dunkirk on a Coal Barge', it tells how he and another soldier took a wounded and bleeding comrade to the front of a queue of soldiers waiting to be transported out and how they were subsequently taken on to a Dutch coal barge.

The guard of honour at the funeral of Dunkirk veteran Len Ellis

Dancers step to it to fund replacement bus

TANHOUSE Morris Dancers have run a successful fundraising campaign allowing them to buy a new double-decker bus to replace their old minibus which kept breaking down.

The group started a fundraising drive to collect the money - featured in the Champion - and organised a sponsored walk from Tanhouse Community Centre to Ormskirk's Coronation Park.

They had to replace the minibus as they need transport to compete across the region every Sunday.

Gillian Harris, 33, from Tanhouse, a dancer with the group, said: "While doing the 8.5 mile walk we had a bucket collection which raised £100 but family and friends sponsored us as well and through that we collected £2,100.

"Our principal Sue McCluskey was made up we reached our target. We want to thank each and every person who helped out and donated.

"Having the bus will allow us to get to competitions every week. We were all surprised by how much we raised.

"Everyone on the walk asked us where we were from and wished us luck."

About 30 walkers took part with ages ranging from three to 79!

Gillian added: "We were able to get the bus in time to enable us to travel to the end-of-season championships in Prestatyn. About 40 to 50 competitors and family travelled on the bus and 20 people followed in their cars.

"It was good we could take part but unfortunately we didn't do as well as we would have liked at the event."

Above: The Tanhouse Morris Dancers and (below) their replacement bus

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Two more 24-hour rail strikes on way

Report by **Henry James**

A computer-generated image of what the new Merseyrail trains will look like

STAFF at Merseyrail and Northern Rail are set to stage two more 24-hour strikes as part of the ongoing dispute over driver-only trains and the role of guards.

The strikes have been called by the RMT union to take place on Tuesday, October 3 and Thursday, October 5 and will cause further disruption for passengers alongside the planned closure of Liverpool's Lime Street Station during extensive refurbishment work.

This is expected to take three weeks from September 30 to October 22.

Merseyrail managing director, Jan Chaudhry-van der Velde, accused the union of trying to "destroy" attempts to build an improved railway.

However, union bosses claim the company is refusing to negotiate on the "critical" issue of safety.

RMT General Secretary, Mick Cash, said: "Merseyrail have repeatedly kicked all conciliatory approaches by RMT negotiators back in our faces and made it crystal clear that all that they are interested in is the union signing a surrender document which gives them a free hand to rip apart the safety culture on the railway.

"RMT recognises the severe impact that the action will have but we are dealing with an employer that refuses to listen or engage with the union on the critical issue of safe rail operation and we ask the public to understand that we have no option but to take this high-profile action to force the company back to the negotiating table.

"Merseyrail are completely ignoring the clear wishes of their own passengers, who overwhelmingly oppose the idea of Driver Only Operated trains on their network. "

Mr Cash also accused Northern Rail operator, Arriva of "intransigence" and added: "We are angry and frustrated that Arriva continue to fail to face up to the facts and also continue to ignore a perfectly reasonable union proposal to invite the DfT to join us in round table talks aimed at finding a solution."

Responding to the union's claims, Jan Chaudhry-van der Velde, said: "We are busy trying to build a better city region with an improved railway. The RMT seem to be doing everything in their power to destroy this work. Don't they want Liverpool to succeed?"

And Richard Allan, Northern's deputy managing director, added: "Northern is modernising local rail with new and refurbished trains, better stations and faster journeys and, while strike action is disruptive, we remain firmly focused on delivering a better service for our customers.

"RMT continues to reject our offers to talk and we are disappointed that the union has called further strike action on Tuesday and Thursday, October 3 and 5. We are still prepared to guarantee jobs and current pay for all our conductors for the next eight years."

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Martin Mere 'bug hotel' checks in for world record!

Report by **Henry James**

THE Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust centre at Martin Mere has been awarded a Guinness World Record for creating the world's largest 'bug hotel' after smashing the previous record.

Measuring 18.46 cubic metres, the Burscough site's structure is almost double the previous record-holder and its 'residents' already include leafcutter bees, mason bees, spiders, moths, a peacock butterfly, a frog and even a bat!

It took visitors to Martin Mere just one month to fill 720 25cm-square cubes with materials such as bamboo, twigs, straw, wood, pine cones, leaves and material from their gardens.

The boxes, made of corrugated board, were supplied by the local branch of leading packaging company, DS Smith UK.

Martin Mere's centre manager, Nick Brooks, said: "We have broken the current world record by over eight cubic metres. This has been a fantastic community achievement. Local schools and businesses got involved, as well as thousands of our visitors.

"The bug hotel has proved to be a great attraction, as well as a new home for wildlife."

The official measuring of the hotel was witnessed by members of local councils, and the Lancashire Wildlife Trust, while, representatives of Liverpool World Museum and Conservation Contracts North West attended to confirm that insects are living in the hotel and that it is fit for purpose.

Staff, visitors, local residents and supporters who helped to achieve its world record status pictured outside the Martin Mere bug hotel

Nick Brooks added: "We are providing a safe place for insects and other animals to sleep, breed and hibernate. All life needs water and nearly all of it needs land too at some point.

"More than 100,000 species of animal rely on freshwater ecosystems alone (half of which are insects!).

"This bug hotel is going to play a vital role in increasing the already amazing biodiversity of Martin Mere's wetland habitat."

David Richardson, managing director at DS Smith's Burscough plant, said: "It's a fantastic achievement for the centre to be awarded the Guinness World Record and testament to the commitment and hard work of both the centre and our local community.

"We're proud to have had the opportunity to support this project and to be able to provide shelter for animals and insects using versatile and sustainable materials."

Council apprentice shortlisted for business award

AN apprentice with West Lancs Council has been shortlisted in a prestigious county-wide business awards scheme.

Portia Taylor-Black, a support officer with the local authority's economic regeneration team, is one of four finalists in the apprentice section of the Sub36 Lancashire Business Awards 2017 organised by Lancashire Business View magazine to celebrate the young entrepreneurial, professional and business talent in the county.

The 21-year-old from Ormskirk was chosen after a day of rigorous judging whittled down the entrants in each of 10 categories.

She will now face an expert panel to share her story, followed by a question-and-answer session, at Preston North End Football Club tomorrow (Thursday, September 28).

Winners of each category will be announced at a ceremony at the Winter Gardens in Blackpool on Thursday, October 19.

Portia *(above)* joined the council in December 2014 as an apprentice and is now a board member and ambassador for the Lancashire Apprentice Ambassador Network (LAAN).

She was also a regional finalist in the National Apprenticeship Awards.

She said: "I am delighted to be a finalist and hopefuly this recognises the commitment I have shown toward my role and my professional development since starting my apprenticeship."

Councillor Ian Moran, West Council leader and portfolio holder for economic regeneration, said: "To be nominated for this awards is a great achievement in itself, so well done to Portia and good luck to her for the finals."

Veterans seek sponsors for drop-in café project

MEMBERS of the Skelmersdale Veterans' Association are appealing for local businesses to come forward and offer them financial support to help set up a drop-in café.

Association official, Alan Lewis MBE, is seeking firms willing to provide sponsorship for the group for six months, or a year.

The association supports local armed force veterans who have served in conflicts around the world.

The aim of the café would be to provide a place where the veterans could get information on the support and services available to them, as well as meeting up with fellow ex-services personnel to talk about shared experiences and build friendships.

Alan said: "We want to have a regular meeting place where veterans can get together and share their experiences in a supportive and friendly manner."

If it takes off the plan would be for the café to be run at the Evermoor Hub Community Centre in Digmoor.

And it would help veterans to overcome social isolation and allow them to meet different people and spark new friendships. Some would also be able to access services from charities and the NHS that they were unaware of.

The veterans outside the café in Leyland

The Skem veterans came up with the idea for the café following a visit to a similar operation in Leyland.

And they have recently been back to the Leyland centre which has been given a cash injection to allow it to continue until next year.

The Leyland café has also attracted the attention of Westminster with the founder Phil Burton receiving a hand-written thank-you from MP Tobias Ellwood, a former captain in the Royal Green Jackets.

BAE Systems has agreed to support the Leyland café after hearing how successful it has been since its launch in April.

The first event alone attracted 30 people, including 20 veterans, as well as their relatives and carers, and numbers have since reached almost 60.

Anyone who can help the Skem Veterans is asked to call 07939 660 048.

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Pensioner says £1m bus 'boost' does nothing to improve services in Skem

Report by **Henry James**

AN irate Skelmersdale pensioner has accused Lancashire County Council of snubbing the town following the announcement of a £1m boost for the county's bus network.

Paul Price says the recent decision by the county's cabinet to approve the extra funding for what council chiefs described as "major improvements" to bus services, actually does nothing for bus-users in Skelmersdale.

And the 67-year-old from Ashurst claimed that if the town had a good bus service there would be no need for the proposed rail link which, it is estimated, will cost in the region of £300 million.

He said: "I was amazed to see no plans for the bus services in Skelmersdale in the county council's latest announcement.

"Many people rely on the buses in Skelmersdale, and if they can't get one, they have to use taxis. I have one friend who lives on Yewdale and has never had a bus service. Without Dial a Ride she would be a prisoner in her own home.

"There is no bus on the Pimbo industrial estate and no-one thinks it merits a bus service. Tanhouse only has one bus service as well. We want some buses.

"They should be sorting out the bus services before they even think about a railway station. You've got to ask yourself are there sufficient commuters to warrant a rail link? We haven't had one for decades.

Paul Price

"What we need is proper bus services which would enable people to use the existing rail stations at Ormskirk and Wigan more.

"The train station is planned to be at the former Glenburn Sports College but that part of town isn't even properly covered by bus services."

In July, changes were made to bus services in Skelmersdale. The 313 service operated by Arriva, which served the Ashurst and Birch Green areas, was replaced by two new services funded by Lancashire County Council.

Service 312 operates from Skelmersdale Concourse to Wrightington Hospital via Appley Bridge, and service 313 will operate from Skelmersdale Concourse to Burscough via Birch Green, Ashurst and Parbold.

The services run at similar times to the previous 313 service, from Monday to Saturday during the daytime.

The changes were agreed by the county council's cabinet as tendered bus services, in recognition of a high number of people in Ashurst who rely on the 313 bus to get to work, education and other vital services, with no alternative service available.

County Councillor Andrew Snowden, Lancashire's lead member for highways and transport, commented: "A good public transport network is vital to support our economy, ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to access work and education. It also plays a vital role in helping people to carry out everyday tasks such as shopping, visiting family and friends, and getting to health appointments.

"I invited all county councillors to offer input on behalf of the communities they represent and raise any issues which they are aware of and we've worked hard to make sure these improvements make the most impact with the resources available.

"This extra funding will make a significant difference by supporting and supplementing the commercial network to link communities which might otherwise have no or very little public transport and help to ensure connections across Lancashire are as effective as possible.

"We are also proposing to hold discussions with bus operators about how we could improve services in some areas, where we think the best option is to enhance an existing commercial service to better serve communities."

Builder submits plans for 161 new homes on two developments

A HOUSE builder has submitted plans to build a total of 161 homes in Skelmersdale and Up Holland.

Morris Homes is proposing to construct 116 homes at Up Holland and a further 45 homes in Skelmersdale.

The proposed layout of the development at Up Holland

The development at Up Holland would be close to Holland Moor Primary School, Moorside Primary and St Thomas the Martyr CE Primary.

The nearest secondary school to the proposed development is Hope High School while Up Holland High is to the south east of the site.

If approved the development will consist of dwellings of different types and sizes, ranging from three to four-bedroom properties with at least two parking spaces per unit.

Morris Homes is also proposing to build 45 'affordable' properties at Abbeystead, Digmoor and an application is to be submitted and considered alongside this proposal.

WYG Planning and Environment on behalf of Morris Homes has made residents living in the immediate vicinity of the site aware of the forthcoming application via a leaflet drop.

The leaflet provides details of the proposals, including an extract of the proposed site layout plan and website details to view the proposals in greater detail and to undertake an online survey.

In a planning statement submitted with the application WYG wrote: "Sufficient steps have been undertaken by the applicant to engage with officers at WLBC and to notify nearby residents of the proposals and intention to submit this application.

"A limited response has been received during the pre-application consultation process and queries raised are addressed within technical reports submitted in support of this application.

"WYG as agents acting on behalf of the applicant will monitor any responses which are made to WLBC as Local Planning Authority, during the statutory consultation process and will address any comments raised as necessary."

The separate application for Digmoor is for 45 homes and a mix of two and three-bedroom properties.

Again WYG states that "sufficient steps" have been undertaken by the applicant to engage with officers at the council and the agents say they will monitor any responses and address any comments raised as necessary.

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Rogue waste carriers targeted as part of multi-agency initiative

AS part of the Environment Agency's Duty of Care campaign to reduce fly-tipping and illegal movement of waste in Lancashire, rogue traders were targeted in three multi-agency roadside stop checks around the county for a crime prevention initiative.

Roadside checks have been carried out as part of a campaign to reduce fly-tipping and illegal movement of waste in Lancashire

In a joint operation, known as Operation Rogue Trader, officers from the Environment Agency, Lancashire Police, the Driver and Vehicle Standard Agency (DVSA), HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) and the Border Agency worked in partnership to stop vehicles known or suspected to be carrying waste.

Activities on the day ranged from executing warrants and handing out fixed penalty notices (FPN) to conducting intelligence-led patrols.

A total of 57 hauliers were stopped during the operation, 46 of which were given advice and guidance, three waste carriers were handed FPN and one individual has already been summoned to appear before Preston Magistrates.

DVSA served a total of 23 Prohibition Notices and also found two drivers over hours and two overloaded vehicles.

Steve Molyneux, environment manager for the Environment Agency, said: "Fly-tipping and illegal waste management put people and the environment at risk and undermine legitimate business and the investment and economic growth that goes with it. These joint operations are an important and effective way of disrupting this illegal activity and we hope to do more of this work in the future."

Judith Kelly, HMRC's Deputy Director of Environmental Taxes, added: "I'm delighted to see the multi-agency work being done to tackle illegal waste management. The unlawful disposal of waste creates an un-level playing field which is unfair to those who take care to do the right thing with their waste.

"We're working with the EA and other key partners to tackle non-compliance in the waste sector together. Strengthening controls across the waste supply chain will help prevent non-compliance, making it harder for operators to make mistakes or deliberately break the rules."

Hauliers who carry waste without being registered with the Environment Agency risk a fixed penalty notice or prosecution. In addition they risk having their vehicle seized and impounded.

Members of the public and businesses can report suspected unregistered carriers, illegal waste sites or illegal waste exporters by calling Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or the Environment Agency Incident Hotline on 0800 80 70.

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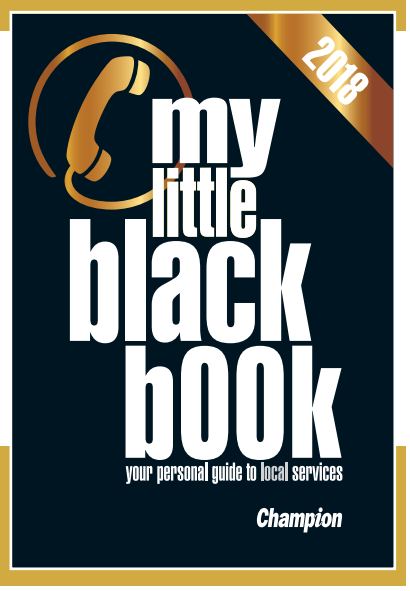

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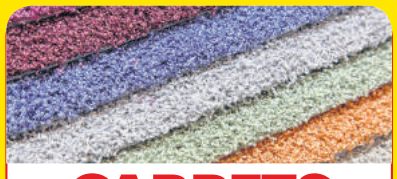

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Mellors base in East Pimbo, Skelmersdale

Award-winning family caterer wins landmark 200th contract

Report by **Henry James**

AN award-winning, family-run catering company based in Skelmersdale has won a landmark contract.

Mellors Catering Services, which celebrated its 21st birthday last year, now has contracts in more than 200 education, business and industry sites across the North of England.

The company, based in Prescott Road, East Pimbo, has invested heavily in specialist staff and now employs more than 1,200 people.

Tony Trainor, chief operating officer at Mellors Catering Services, said: "This is a great September start for us to have smashed through the landmark 200 number of sites which is a combination of great retention rates and winning several new site contracts.

"We have had an amazing 18 months – winning the prestigious National Contract Caterer of the Year award 2017, getting through to the county's Be Inspired Business Awards (BIBA) finals in three categories and now having more than 200 sites to our name.

"It comes down to passion, hard work, great staff and planning and we believe it just re-iterates to us and our customers that we are the first choice contract caterer in the north."

George and Jamie with their prizes

Young book lovers complete Reading Trail challenge

TWO book-loving youngsters from Skelmersdale have successfully completed the Lancashire Reading Trail challenge.

Eight-year-olds Jamie Dee and George Wilson, were presented with a book of their choice and a gold certificate each by staff at Skelmersdale Library in Southway after reading 50 books during the summer holidays.

The Lancashire Reading Trail, created by staff at the county council's library service, is aimed at encouraging children up to the age of 12 to read more.

For further details about the trail and how to get involved, go to www.lancashire.gov.uk or call in at your local library.

Macmillan Fundraiser date

UP Holland's annual Macmillan Fundraiser will be held on Friday (September 29) starting at 7pm at the St James' Social Club in St James Road, Orrell.

The fundraiser has been running for eight years, raising around £50,000 to date.

This year's event will feature a beauty and fashion show and an appearance by the X Factor finalist, Olivia Garcia, along with veg, cake and fancy goods stalls.

Tickets are £6. For further information contact Kath on 01695 721038.

Mayor attends school open evening

THE Mayor of West Lancashire, Councillor Neil Furey, went back to school for the night when he attended an open event at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Engineering College.

The event at the school in Glenburn Road, Skelmersdale was for Year 6 pupils and their parents.

Councillor Furey said: "I enjoyed meeting the teaching staff and was given a tour of the school and its facilities. I was delighted to be involved in the event and was made to feel very welcome."

Mayor of West Lancs, Cllr. Neil Furey pictured with headteacher, Alison Knight and pupils, during his visit to Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Engineering College open evening.

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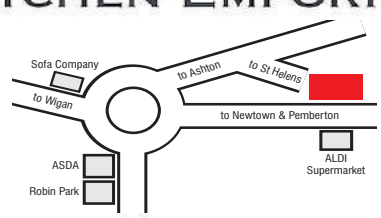

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Golfer chases his dream to claim prestigious trophy

Report by **Henry James**

A MEMBER at Hurlston Hall golf club in Scarisbrick has beaten thousands of fellow amateurs across England to win the Bridgestone Tyres Chase Your Dream Trophy - four years after thinking he'd never swing a club again!

Mike Durkin suffered a heart attack in 2013 and thought his golfing days were over, making his triumph in the aptly-named event all the more remarkable.

The 63-year-old has spent much of the summer progressing steadily through the competition, making his way through his club event, regional finals and then the national final at Woodhall Spa.

He teed it up at the pro-am of the Bridgestone Challenge at Luton Hoo with teammates Neil Garbutt and 14-year-old Hannah Golding and professional Ben Evans, beating every other finalist team to secure the silverware.

Aside from the prestige of beating thousands of fellow amateurs, Mike can now enjoy a 'money-can't-buy' round with Lee Westwood, Sergio Garcia or another household name of the European Tour at the pro-am of the British Masters in Newcastle today (Wednesday, September 27).

Mike said: "I really have chased my dream to win this, so the trophy couldn't have been better named.

"Four years ago I thought I was a gonner. I thought the heart attack was going to finish me off.

"But my wife was with me all the way and vowed she'd get me back, and here I am. I honestly never thought I would experience anything like this, so I am savouring every second.

'Four years ago I thought I was a gonner' says 63-year-old heart attack victim Mike

Mike Durkin (right) with golf professional Ben Evans and the trophy

"We were supposed to be on holiday in Spain, so I could have got a clip around the ear for being here, but I wouldn't have missed this round of golf for anything."

The Bridgestone Tyres Chase Your Dream Trophy is an annual event open to members of England Golf's 1,900 affiliated clubs and features separate competitions for men and women.

Bridgestone Tyres' consumer sales and marketing director, Farrell Dolan said: "I don't think we heard a story as memorable as Mike's from the moment the very first tee shot was hit back in May. So for him to win with Neil and Hannah couldn't have been better."

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Fillet of Salmon with a Lemon and Dill Crust
In a sun blushed tomato cream
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Cashew nuts and spinach with blue cheese in a pastry crust
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Traditional Christmas Pudding
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Edge Hill University

University wins accolade for student retention

Report by **Henry James**

EDGE Hill has been named University of the Year for 'Student Retention' by The Times and The Sunday Times Good University Guide 2018.

The authors of the guide were impressed by the Ormskirk university's 'award-winning' student finance support package rewards programme, as well as its ability to encourage students to complete their courses.

Furthermore, said the guide, all students have a personal tutor, as well as access to counsellors and financial advice.

All of these factors were adjudged to contribute to keep the drop-out rate to around 8%, well below the expected level of 12%, taking account of the course and student profile at the university.

Edge Hill has also invested more than £250m in its 160-acre campus at Ormskirk, which has helped the university to reach the top three for its facilities and campus environment in the Times Higher Education magazine's 2016 survey.

Almost all the university's students are state-educated and one in five is from a neighbourhood of low participation in higher education. These are among the highest proportions in England.

Alastair McCall, editor of The Sunday Times Good University Guide, said: "It's easy to see students through to the end of their degree when you play safe with your admissions policy, much less so when you take your social responsibility seriously and offer places to students who might not be accepted elsewhere.

"Edge Hill manages to pull off this conjuring trick with some aplomb, however.

"The drop-out rate is considerably below the expected level. An award-winning finance support package rewards achievement as well as encouraging students to complete their studies, rather than simply offer incentives for enrolling.

"This is just one of the measures that made Edge Hill the stand out candidate this year for our University of the Year for Student Retention award."

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Champion LETTERS to the Editor

Clare House, 166 Lord Street, Southport PR9 0QA
tel 01704 392 400 email editor@champnews.com

Positive initiatives taking place to remedy difficulties with primary care appointments and make improvements to benefit patients

IN response to the letters by Ms Nolan (Champion, August 16) and M. Earl (August 30) regarding health appointments, the NHS recognises there are difficulties with accessing primary care appointments, however there are many positive initiatives taking place nationally and locally to remedy this.

Primary care is starting to be improved.

This is echoed in NHS England's GP Practice Forward View that looks at areas such as workforce and capacity, against which we are already beginning to make improvements that will benefit patients.

In winter 2016 we launched the extended hours pilot which offers additional GP appointments to West Lancashire residents during the evenings and weekends.

This has been well received and recently extended. If patients are interested in this, they can book appointments through their own GP practice.

We are also planning to introduce new roles in GP practice, such as Clinical Pharmacists and Care Navigators, to support with the pressures on GPs.

As a reminder, pharmacies, 111 and GP out-of-hours continue to be available to local residents and we recommend self-care where possible.

For life-threatening and serious illnesses only the local A&E services can be accessed.

For more information, please visit our website, www.westlancashireccg.nhs.uk.

NHS West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)

Blocked drains on borough's roadsides are a hazard and an accident waiting to happen

THIS is my first time of writing to the Champion and concerns the overgrown verges but also a fear for drivers' safety.

Congratulations to Sefton Council who have just cut the grass along the A59 for the fifth time this year and yet again have put West Lancashire to shame, who I believe managed a single cut to date.

On a more serious note, you drive around Robin's Island and in addition to the well-maintained verges, you will also notice that the grids in Sefton are exposed for rainwater to freely drain away.

You then pass the West Lancashire sign and you will witness that the drains are completely blocked with grass and soil.

It resembles the 'potato heads' my young daughters bought with grass freely sprouting out.

Last week we had torrential rain and I was driving along the A59 heading towards West Tower, I had to drive in the outside lane as I felt the car would aquaplane in the inside lane due to water not having the chance to drain away because of the blocked drains.

This is a hazard waiting for an accident to happen.

Come on West Lancashire, let's follow our neighbours in Sefton, take pride in our community and not endanger the lives of drivers!

Andy Devlin, Aughton

Trees would help to suck up rainfall on problem plot

I READ the piece about the problems with water run-off from the plot of grass near to homes (Champion, September 13).

I was pleased to see that the council hopes to reduce the run-off by installing some edging and cutting back the edge of the grass.

This piece of land looks like a good space for Sephton Drive residents.

Perhaps the council could improve it further by planting some trees, which are known to suck up the rainfall and therefore improve the area in more ways than one.

Of course, they should put the paving right too.

Roz, Friends of the Earth, Ormskirk Branch

PICTURE of the week

Leap of faith.... two scouts at last weekend's annual 'Gathering' test their nerve on the High Ropes Adventure - one of the activities open to some of the 900 Ormskirk District Scouts who attended the event at the Rock and River Outdoor Pursuits Centre in Mawdesley.
Photograph by Martyn Snape

If you opt to go private you give up the right to benefit from council services

AFTER combing through the letter by Alison Reece ('We all pay our council and we all deserve equal help', September 13) I feel the need to respond on behalf of all council tenants.

As a resident (homeowner) on a council estate Alison needs to remember that her home was a council property with all the benefits.

Alison chose to change her status to homeowner and therefore gives up the right to council funding and services included in the 'pittance' rent.

If rent is a pittance then Alison must be secure enough to afford her own repairs and not condemn people who choose to be council tenants.

Alison made a choice, so please stick with it and move to a private estate and maybe her irritations with council tenants and their 'free' housing improvements will subside.

P. M. , by email

Drop us a line...

IF you've got a view on a topic of local or national interest which you would like to share with the readers of the Champion, why not drop us a line?

Letters to the editor should be concise, preferably no more than 350 words, and should include the sender's name, address and contact details, although not necessarily for publication.

The editor reserves the right to edit all items submitted for favour of publication.

Correspondents preferring not to have their name and/or their address published may provide a suitable nom de plume.

Letters can be posted or emailed to the respective addresses listed at the top of this page.

■ **PLEASE note: All views and opinions expressed in letters to the editor are solely those of the authors.**

Join the Animal Welfare Sunday celebrations

I NOTE from the Church Times that October 8 is Animal Welfare Sunday, though of course it could be celebrated any Sunday.

Knowing how many in the area covered by your newspaper love animals, I thought that some of your readers might like to get busy straight away!

The Anglican Society for the Welfare of Animals has a website at www.aswa.org.uk, an email address at AngSocWelAnimals@aol.com and a phone number which is 01252 843093.

The society is offering orders of service and sermon suggestions on a variety of animal welfare topics plus ideas for young people and children and all resources can be downloaded free of charge. Though, if you had a collection, it would be polite to send them a donation.

I can report that many of us who, one day, took a deep breath and launched into such an event, found it both great fun and very rewarding – and rather a lot to do with our blessed Creator!

Rev Mrs Angela Robinson, Southport

Concourse and council 'truce' on town centre would benefit us all

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So why is the council hostile to it? The long-running saga of St Modwen and the new town centre is an obvious dead duck.

An upgraded Ecumenical Centre will brighten the area. The Concourse will benefit from this. Co-op Bank moving may permit the council to use part of the space for offices.

So, we have a town centre.

Can the council and the Concourse have an armistice with reduced rates and rents to permit vacant shop areas to be occupied?

We would all benefit.

Graham P. Walker, Up Holland

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Authority responds to criticism by West Lancs MP

County Council says help is available for people having problems with Blue Badge scheme

Report by **Henry James**

LANCASHIRE County Council chiefs have said help is available for people experiencing problems with the authority's Blue Badge parking scheme for those with severe mobility problems.

It follows criticism by Rosie Cooper of the way the scheme is run.

The West Lancs MP said she had been inundated with complaints by residents in the borough about major issues regarding their applications for and renewals of the badges.

In response, County Councillor Peter Buckley, Lancashire's cabinet member for community and cultural services, said: "We recognise the importance of Blue Badges and have continued to do all we can to help people who apply, including offering assistance in completing the form.

"We recognise that there have been some changes to disability benefits nationally, and we want to make applying for a badge as easy as possible.

"We are offering more independent mobility assessments, which will help us to determine whether someone is eligible for a Blue Badge and our customer service staff have recently had extra training.

"Also, we realise not everyone finds it easy to apply for a Blue Badge online and our customer service staff can make the application over the phone if people prefer, or alternatively, they can talk people through the online application process or assist them at their local library while they are completing the form."

Rosie Cooper said she had received a number of complaints from constituents about the scheme

County Councillor Peter Buckley

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Military vehicle group set to display collections

Report by **Kenny Parker**

MEMBERS of the public are invited to a display of military hardware when members of a local history group show off their collections again this weekend.

Heatons Bridge Military Vehicle Group will display a whole range of vehicles and other war memorabilia at the Heatons Bridge Inn, Scarisbrick on Saturday and Sunday, September 30 and October 1.

The gatherings at the venue have become established as twice-yearly events, courtesy of proprietors Steve and Jacqui Winrow who will be providing food along with real ales given names to reflect the military theme.

The military enthusiasts group preserves and renovates vehicles and equipment of different ages and displays them at various shows and events across the region.

Among the many vehicles set to be on show at the pub will be WW2 Willys, Ford, Hotchkiss and Austin Champ Jeeps, post-WW2 Landrovers in various configurations and Bedford RL four-ton trucks.

There will also be armoured personnel carriers, including a Saracen which has served in Northern Ireland and Korea, military motorbikes and military staff cars.

Members also bring items from their own personal collections and among the exhibits that have made appearances in the past are a Howitzer field gun, an Abbot self-propelled gun and its Mighty Antar tank transporter, and a Swiss Saurer four-ton truck.

Other members' items to feature in displays include various firearms, bayonets, other weapons, uniforms and radio and field equipment.

Event organiser Paul Connolly pictured operating an air raid siren with his Navy Jeep nearby

Meanwhile, a regular part of the event is a 25-pounder field gun rig comprising a Morris Quad tractor unit, which tows an ammunition limber behind, and the field gun itself behind that.

Heatons Bridge Inn is located on Heatons Bridge Road, near to the Leeds-Liverpool Canal.

Steve and Jacqui have retained a World War 2 free-standing brick pillbox which formed part of the home-guard defence provisions on the grounds.

It is planned to set up a small home guard display inside the pillbox to give visitors a 'feel' of what it might have been like for a soldier to have been holed up there.

The event is free and runs for the whole of Saturday through to lunchtime on Sunday. Enthusiasts will be on hand to answer any questions.

For more details contact organiser, Paul Connolly on 01704 545786, email pconnolly09@btinternet.com or group secretary, Angela Brown on 01942 514738, email pegasus-drive@sky.com.

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THURS 19TH OCTOBER	Tweed Mill, St Asaph & Llandudno	£17.25	£12.95
TUES 24TH OCTOBER	Trafford Centre Shopping	£13.50	£10.00
MON 30TH OCTOBER	Skipton on Market Day	£14.40	£10.80

NOVEMBER

		ADULT	CHILD
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WED 29TH NOVEMBER	Boundary Mill at Colne	£13.90	£10.40
THURS 30TH NOVEMBER	Manchester Christmas Market	£13.50	£10.00

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		ADULT	CHILD
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Centenarian is special guest at century commemoration event

PARBOLD'S oldest resident was guest of honour at the completion of a community project funded by Douglas Valley Lions and carried out by the Friends of Parbold Station.

Former signalman Tom Leatherbarrow, aged 103, was invited along to the unveiling of the newly-restored sign at the Parbold Cabin signal box.

The restoration work was sponsored by the Lions to commemorate 100 years of Lions clubs and carried out by Friends of Parbold Station member, Graham MacLeod.

Tom is pictured with the Friends of Parbold Station and Douglas Valley Lions before the unveiling.

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Clogged-up roads and satnavs would drive me to distraction!

AGAINST my better judgement I have been watching a TV programme which features elderly drivers.

The idea is that older drivers, some of who have never taken a driving test, should have their driving appraised to see if they are safe on the road, or perhaps admit that it's time they hung up their car keys for ever.

Programmes of this kind, to be of any interest to most viewers, must show the best and worst. And to be fair, this programme does appear to have a good cross section.

For example, there was one elderly gent who quite obviously was a danger to himself and all around him. He ran a red light, thought a road sign gave him right of way when in fact it meant the opposite, and seemed quite oblivious to anything on his near side.

On the other hand, a 105-year-old woman drove superbly and was congratulated by the chap who tested her.

I wonder, if they had tried the same exercise with any age group, how many would have been as good as this woman? Not many, I reckon. And how many as poor as the chap who didn't know his handbrake from his elbow?

Years ago I used to drive hundreds of miles a week, accident-free and still with a clean driving licence, apart from one 30mph infringement which I still think was unfair.

Reflection

Anyway, if nothing else this elderly drivers feature did give me pause for thought. I haven't driven now for several years, primarily originally because when I was made redundant from my job I simply couldn't afford the kind of car I wanted. Then, as time went on, I found that I could easily do without one.

My late brother, George, drove us both down to our holidays afloat in Norfolk, and a bus and train pass (originally bought but now, of course, free) plus the use of my legs, got me around quite satisfactorily.

However, George's death started me thinking about getting my driving licence renewed, buying a car, and getting back on the road. Unfortunately, reflection brought me back to earth with a bump.

The cost of taxing and insuring a car, let alone depreciation and fuel costs, meant that I had a stark choice. Either get a car and sell my beloved boat, or forget the car. The boat won easily.

I still wondered though if I got my licence back, if I could then hire a car for my trips to Norfolk? Not a bad idea. Until I considered how driving has changed since my heyday as Mr Toad.

Certainly I was never faced with satnavs, bleeps telling me my seat-belt wasn't on, all kinds of warning buzzers and lights which can or cannot safely be ignored. And though speed cameras were around in my driving days, there were no 20mph zones, or apparently blanket 50mph limits for miles of so-called 'open road'.

Puzzling

If I ever really considered getting back behind the wheel, I would most certainly take a few driving lessons to bring me up (or down) to speed. I really think I would pass a driving test such as that on TV at the moment.

But I cannot see how anyone can honestly claim to enjoy driving on today's clogged-up and rule-littered roads. So perhaps it's just as well that I still couldn't possibly afford it anyway.

One thing that really puzzles me about modern-day driving though is this reliance on GPS. In my driving days, if I was setting out for places to which I hadn't previously been, I would first have a quick look at a road atlas and then prepare a short series of cards which I kept by my side in my motor.

For instance, to get to Norfolk would have been quite simple. The card would have read: M6 - M1 (alt. M6 Toll) to junction with A14 (signed Cambridge/Felixstowe). A14 - junct A11 (L). Then A11 - Norwich.

I didn't, and still wouldn't need an annoying voice continually telling me: 'Take the third exit from the roundabout.'

I loathe being lectured at by a machine anyway, which is why I flatly refuse to use those self check-outs in supermarkets which increasingly do not open their 'basket only' check-outs presumably in an attempt to force me to the machines.

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Care trust collaborating on online directory of 'positive' mental health practice

LANCASHIRE Care NHS Foundation Trust is working in partnership with the Positive Practice Mental Health collaborative to launch a new website 'The National Guide to Positive Practice in Mental Health/Patient Pathway'.

The directory, to be launched next month, will provide more than 300 examples of positive practice in mental health a number of which are taking place across Lancashire.

All of the services featured in the guide have been recognised in the National Positive Practice in Mental Health Awards, other awards celebrations or been reviewed by a team of judges.

Other services will include those deemed to be positive practice examples by the National Collaborating Centre for Mental Health featured in the pathways they are developing for NHS England.

The services featured will be updated on a six-monthly basis to ensure all information is of use.

James Harper, Allied Health Professional Lead at Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust said: "We are delighted to be working in partnership with the Positive Practice Mental Health Collaborative to launch this exciting directory of services."

The launch will be on Friday, October 13 at The Imperial Hotel in Blackpool.

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More than 300 guinea pigs have been abandoned so far this year

Animal charity launches campaign to halt neglect of guinea pigs

RSPCA officials voice concerns over big rise in number of abandoned pets

THE RSPCA has launched a campaign to try and halt the rise in the number of pet owners who abandon their guinea pigs.

Latest figures from the animal charity show more than 300 guinea pigs were abandoned so far this year - already triple the number dumped last year.

The RSPCA believes one of the major causes of guinea pigs being neglected is a misconception that they are easy to look after or that they can be a child's first pet.

New statistics show that between January and the end of August this year there were 338 guinea pigs abandoned and rescued by RSPCA officers. This compares to just 112 which were rescued and abandoned in the whole of 2016.

Dr Jane Tyson, RSPCA's scientific officer for companion animals, said: "Just because these animals are small in size does not mean that they are any less of a commitment. They have their own specialist needs and require lots of care and attention."

Social

Dr Tyson added: "Guinea pigs need access to a secure shelter and an exercise area for them to run around and play.

"Guinea pigs are highly social animals and in the wild live in close family groups of up to ten individuals.

"As pets they prefer to be with at least one other piggy and can develop abnormal behaviours if they are left without company.

"They communicate using around eleven different noises and chatter their teeth as a warning signal which could mean they are feeling angry, unhappy or frustrated and may need more space."

To rehome any of the small animals in the care of the RSPCA, visit www.rspca.org.uk/findapet

Students who smoke can get help from the Quit Squad to kick the habit

Student smokers urged to team up with the Quit Squad

Getting specialist help to kick the habit will improve your health ***and*** your bank balance!

Report by **Henry James**

STUDENTS who smoke are being urged to improve their health and their bank balance by getting specialist help from Lancashire's Quit Squad to help them kick the habit.

The Quit Squad, funded by Lancashire County Council and delivered by Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust, is advising students that not only could they save money by quitting smoking they would also improve their overall health and reduce the risks of cardiovascular disease, lung disease, cancer and stroke.

Gareth Beck from the Quit Squad said: "New graduates in England face average debt of around £50,000. Rising living costs and tuition fees mean the financial burden on students can be high and smoking can add to these costs.

Easier

"Stopping smoking with help from the Quit Squad could mean students have more money in their pockets.

"You are four times more likely to give up with expert help than without. With the right support and guidance everything becomes easier."

On average, most people who quit save around £250 each month, which is nearly £3,000 a year going up in smoke.

For more information on how much smokers could save by giving up, visit: https://www.nhs.uk/smokefree/why-quit/cost-calculator

People can access the Quit Squad service in their community by visiting a drop-in clinic (for which no appointments are required) or by attending a one-to-one session. The Quit Squad also offers sessions in the community and workplace.

For further details, telephone 0800 3286297, visit www.quitsquad.nhs.uk, or follow the Quit Squad on Twitter @LancashireCare #QuitSquad.

New members welcome at rambling association

THE Liverpool Catholic Rambling Association, which is celebrating its 90th anniversary this year, welcomes new members.

The club is a non-denominational group and organises Sunday coach walks to North West beauty spots, including the Lake District, Wales, Yorkshire Dales and Peak District.

Walks are graded to suit all abilities and there are weekends away and social activities. The coach also picks up in Walton, Aintree and Skelmersdale.

For more information call Will on 0151 486 6541 or find them on Facebook.

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Help is available for ex-service personnel with mental health problems

Support available for military veterans with mental health issues

THIS World Mental Health Day, Tuesday, October 10 ex-service personnel who are struggling with their mental health can access care and support from Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust's Military Veterans' Service.

Although about three in 100 UK Armed Forces personnel were assessed with a mental disorder in the last year, most do not experience mental health problems whilst serving in the forces. Many of their problems arise through difficulties in adjusting to civilian life.

For some, mental health problems may be made worse or caused by post-service factors, such as alcohol misuse, social exclusion, loss of family and support networks.

Often those who have served in the armed forces may put off seeking the support they need. With this in mind, the Lancashire Military Veterans' Service wants to remind people of the support available for anyone experiencing mental health problems or difficulties in adjusting to normal life.

The service provides mental health support for conditions including depression, alcohol and substance misuse, anger problems and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Joe Crocock, Military Veterans Service manager at Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust, said: "Adapting to the change in lifestyle when leaving the armed forces can be extremely hard and no one should have to suffer alone. We want to encourage veterans in Lancashire who are experiencing mental health problems such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), depression, anxiety or those dealing with substance misuse to get in touch with the service this World Mental Health Day.

"The service is made up of a team of specialists who understand the culture of the armed forces and can provide help for anyone who is experiencing emotional difficulties."

The Military Veterans' Service is a partnership between Lancashire Care and Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust. The service provides a valuable insight and understanding of life both in and out of the forces as many staff have served themselves or have family members in the forces.

For more information visit www.lancashire-care.nhs.uk/military-veterans-mental-health-services or call 0300 323 0707. To find our more about additional support in your local area you can also visit www.veteransgateway.org.uk or call 0808 802 1212.

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Drink-driver caught after tip-off to police

A BURSCOUGH man was caught drink-driving following a tip-off to police.

Craig Evans, 22, of Furnival Drive, appeared at Sefton Magistrates Court on September 20, where he pleaded guilty to driving with 49 micrograms of alcohol in 100ml of breath. The legal limit is 35mcg/100ml.

Andrew Page, prosecuting, said that a police patrol had been informed at 7.20pm on Saturday, September 2 that a suspected drink-driver was "heading out of Crosby towards an address in Burscough".

The officer located the car and stopped it on Back Lane, Thornton. "It was immediately clear to the officer that the driver, Evans, was unsteady on his feet and the officer asked him to take a road-side breath test which proved positive," said Mr Page.

Defending solicitor Nick Archer said that it was an unfortunate set of circumstances. "He had been driven to Liverpool by someone else in their car," he said, "He was not expecting to drive but on the way back that person said they were not able to drive and asked for volunteers. His other friends all said no and very foolishly he said he would."

Evans also pleaded guilty to driving without insurance and without a licence. The magistrates fined him £200, ordered that he pay costs and victim surcharge of £115 and banned him from driving for 12 months.

MP pledges support for British farmers

ROSIE Cooper recognised the vital contribution that North West farmers have made to the economy, the countryside and food production by pledging to 'Back British Farming' at an event in Westminster.

Farming in the North West contributes an estimated £684m to the economy and provides 33,163 jobs.

This is in addition to the safe, affordable food that farmers produce and their work in maintaining the British countryside. Farming also supports the work of other industries, such as vets, solicitors, surveyors and feed merchants.

The event in Westminster was organised by the National Farmers' Union (NFU) as a rallying call to MPs to support farming during a particularly crucial period for British farmers in the light of the Brexit negotiations.

The West Lancs MP said: "There are so many worthy reasons to support British farmers, they are responsible for securing our fantastic British food supply, looking after our world-renowned countryside and sustaining a dynamic rural economy. That is why I am proud to wear the NFU's Back British Farming pin badge in Parliament.

Rosie Cooper is backing British Farming

"As one of the sectors that could be affected by Britain's withdrawal from the EU, it is critical that as politicians we create the right regulatory environment to ensure our farmers can continue to provide the safe and affordable food that the public trust and demand."

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Environment Agency lifts deadline for pump stations funding axe

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

ENVIRONMENT Agency chiefs have revealed that they will continue to fund pumping stations in Alt Crossens after the current notice period of December 2018 – until a solution has been found.

The agency intends to carry on funding the pumps until communities have all options for an alternative solution open to them for consideration.

In line with government policy the agency must prioritise activities delivering the greatest benefit in reducing the risk of flooding to people and property. To support this the agency is seeking to stop operating pumping stations in locations that provide drainage for agricultural land, including Alt Crossens.

It has been working with communities and stakeholders to identify an alternative solution to enable the continued operation of the pumping stations. One of the options that farmers in the Alt Crossens area have shown support for is the creation of a new internal drainage board (IDB), a local public authority established in areas of special need with the powers to manage water levels and undertake works to reduce the flood risk to people, landowners and property.

In December 2016, the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) confirmed that there is difficulty in applying the provisions within the Land Drainage Act 1991 to enable the creation of new IDBs. DEFRA is working with partners and stakeholders in considering potential amendments to the legislation.

In the meantime the option of creating an IDB is not currently available for consideration by communities and stakeholders. The Environment Agency is working closely with DEFRA to try to resolve these issues and will seek to provide an update to communities and stakeholders this winter.

The agency will continue to work with landowners and other interested parties, including the National Farmers Union, Country Landowners Association, Lancashire County Council, local communities, local authorities, environmental organisations and other partners to work toward an alternative solution. They will also meet with farmers and landowners in the autumn to agree future maintenance work.

Environment Agency flood risk manager, Andy Brown, said: "The Environment Agency remains committed to working with those affected by this proposed change to find and implement a suitable solution for water level management in the Alt Crossens.

"The agency has taken a decision to continue to fund the operation of land drainage pumping stations in the Alt Crossens beyond the existing notice period of the end of December 2018 until communities have all options open to them."

Free bike skills course for kids

A FREE class for children wanting to learn or improve their cycling skills is being held in Coronation Park, Ormskirk from 10am to midday on Saturday, September 30.

The Bikeability Level 1 course is aimed at children aged between five and eight learning to ride on two wheels for the first time or wanting to improve their balance and ability.

Instructors will help children learn to control their bike, improve observation and learn techniques to prepare them for road cycling in the future.

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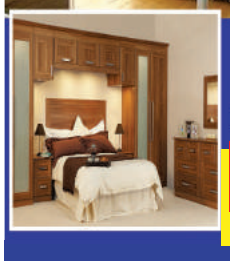

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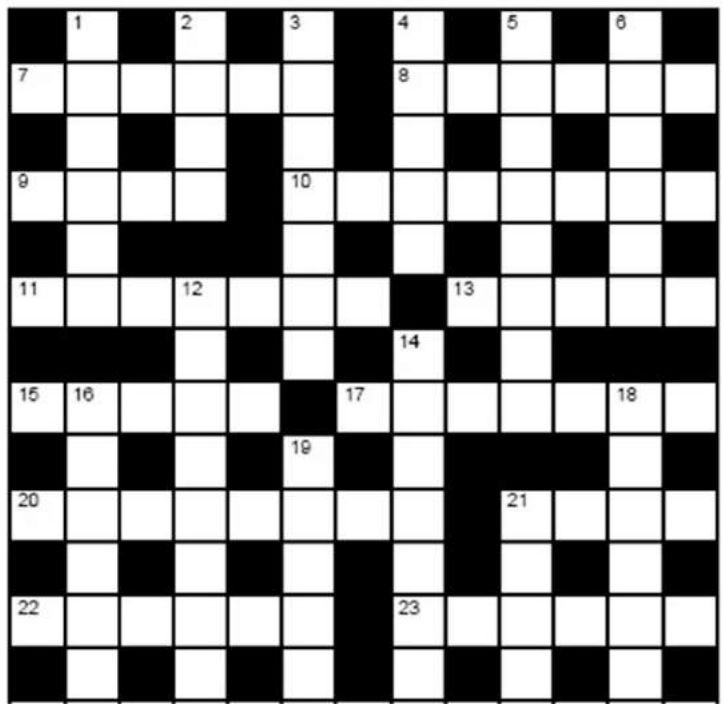

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ACROSS

7. Be unable to do (6)
8. Forward surge (6)
9. Large, thick, flat piece of stone or concrete, typically square or rectangular (4)
10. Woman's light dressing gown, typically made of filmy fabric (8)
11. Monumental structure with a square or triangular base and sloping sides that meet at the top (7)
13. A rope with a noose at one end, used in North America for catching cattle (5)
15. Strike with a firm blow (5)
17. Metal container with a handle, used to fetch and store coal for a domestic fire (7)
20. Game originated by Native North Americans (8)
21. Row of houses or flats converted from stables or built to look like former stables (4)
22. Hero of Daniel Defoe novel about a sailor shipwrecked on a desert island (6)
23. Bitterly disappointed or upset (6)

DOWN

1. Ship's kitchen (6)
2. Rebuff (4)
3. Tool or implement especially for household use (7)
4. Polynesian kingdom of more than 170 South Pacific islands (5)
5. Substance that causes slight inflammation or other discomfort (8)
6. Valuable possessions (6)
12. Star-like symbol used in text as a pointer to an annotation or footnote (8)
14. An area of land, typically when used for agricultural purposes (7)
16. Lacking in quantity or quality (6)
18. Understated (3-3)
19. One of the Home Counties (5)
21. Winged insect (4)

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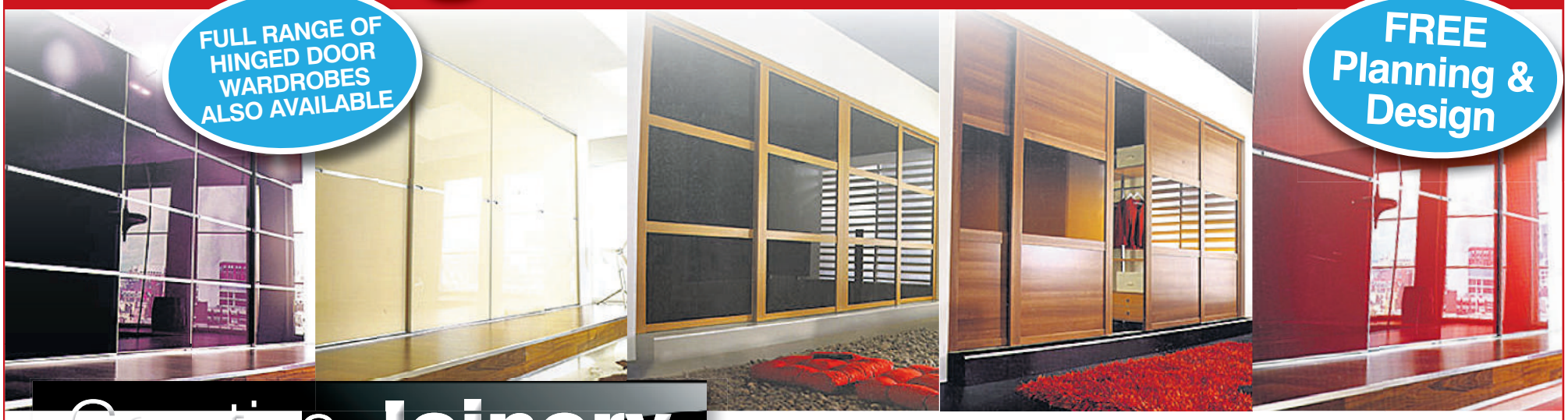

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Primary pupils earn top marks from visiting councillor

PUPILS at a West Lancashire primary school earned a glowing report following a visit by a local councillor with a special interest in education.

County Councillor Nikki Hennessy thanked the school council at Asmall Primary in Ormskirk for their thoughtful preparation for her visit and thanked the school for making her feel welcome.

Cllr Hennessy was invited to visit the school in Tennyson Drive and the school council, made up of pupils from Years 2 to 6, prepared a full itinerary for the occasion, including a tour and an introduction to each class.

Last year the school council manned a stall on a fundraising day and raised £60, which was spent on reception class educational games and a mini greenhouse.

They were also responsible for setting school rules that concern the children and led several school assemblies on topics including computer safety and eating healthy.

County Councillo rNikki Hennessy with members of the school council at Asmall Primary

At the start of her visit Cllr. Hennessy was met by deputy head teacher, Rebecca Whitfield who explained that the school council pupils had planned the afternoon as they all wanted to show her the great work that they had done together over the year.

Then over afternoon tea and biscuits, the youngsters quizzed their visitor about her role as a county councillor.

And she was presented with a selection of fresh vegetables grown locally by school council pupil, Tresawna Gielty, before the day was rounded off with a question-and-answer session involving the whole school in assembly.

Cllr. Hennessy said: "It is always a pleasure visiting schools in my local area and getting to know how well our young people are being looked after and to see how their young minds are developing.

"The whole school assembly were very interested and keen to support being Dementia Friendly as I mentioned Alzheimer's was one of my charities when I was the Mayor of West Lancashire.

"I want to thank the school council for putting so much thought in to my afternoon, with the help of Mrs Whitfield, as well as the rest of the pupils and the staff on being so welcoming.

"I look forward to visiting the school again and hearing about the great work this year's school council has done."

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Cruise-themed Ladies Night fundraiser

APPLEY Bridge Community Association is to stage a special fundraising Ladies Night on Friday, September 29 at the Community Centre in Appley Lane North.

Starting at 7.30pm, proceeds from the event will be split between the association and Macmillan Cancer Support.

The community centre will be transformed into a luxury liner for the cruise-themed evening with guests enjoying a glass of wine before dinner and dancing. There will also be a raffle with some excellent prizes.

Tickets for the event, priced £15, are available from Elaine Roper at All Saints School/brownies; Naomi Teasdale at All Saints Church; or Liz and Madeleine Roberts at Appley Bridge beavers/cubs/scouts.

Musical fireworks show set to go off with a bang!

THIS year's British Musical Fireworks show in Southport is set to be the biggest yet with the arrival of the Champions of Champions!

Seven of the very best pyrotechnic display teams ever to feature in the event will go head-to-head in a Champions-themed competition over three nights.

And to wow the expected thousands of spectators even more, a scorchingly fascinating pre-show display will launch each night's competition.

Liverpool based 'Bring the Fire Project' are set to bring their Japanese Fire Show to Victoria Park from September 29 to October 1.

They will light the way for an action packed three days as seven previous winners battle it out to be crowned the ultimate 'Champion of Champions.'

Southport's skyline will once again be lit up with fireworks

Impressive

Two teams will entertain the crowds on Friday, three on Saturday and two more on Sunday with the winning display announced later that evening.

Gates open each night at 6pm, with the Bring the Fire Project starting their display at 7pm.

The impressive fireworks are then scheduled to start at 8pm each night.

Councillor Marion Atkinson, Sefton Council's cabinet member for regeneration and skills, said: "The British Musical Fireworks Championship really is an amazing event and one which has lit up the skies of Southport since 1999.

"Crowds from all over the North West attend the event at Victoria Park and ticket sales have yet again been very strong in the lead up to this year's event.

"Local businesses really benefit from the added footfall to the town over the weekend and I am looking forward to seeing the quality of displays on show this time round.

"If you are thinking of attending please try and get tickets in advance to avoid missing out, Saturday seated tickets have already sold out."

Tickets are still available for all three nights starting from £5.50.

For further details and to book tickets head to www.visitsouthport.com.

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Legal expert offers students tips on how to avoid the pitfalls of first-time renting

EXPERTS at a national law firm have produced a guide to help students taking up rented accommodation for the first time in university towns and cities across the UK - including Ormskirk - to avoid some of the common pitfalls.

Renting for the first time is a significant step requiring a great deal of independence and responsibility. It also involves plenty of paperwork and the dreaded 'tenancy deposit' - the lump sum paid at the beginning of the rental period by way of assurance that the property will be looked after and returned to the landlord in the same condition, as well as protecting the landlord against tenants 'doing a runner' without paying some or all of the due rent.

However, regardless of how careful or house proud a student tenant might be, when summer comes around, many find themselves struggling to get their deposit back.

Joanne Ellis, head of housing law at Stephensons Solicitors, offers the following advice:

Before moving in

A bit of forward planning goes a long way. Joanne recommends taking the time to examine the property carefully from the moment the rent begins

"A major cause of disputes over deposits come down to the condition of the property. Quite often, the landlord will claim that the tenant was responsible for damage, whereas the tenant will say that the damage had already occurred before they moved in.

"With modern smartphones, there really is no excuse for not having strong evidence to prove your case. When you first move in, take the time to do a thorough sweep of the property, taking photos of the condition of all rooms – particularly where there is existing damage or wear. Save these digitally in a safe place and make sure that they are time-stamped so that the time they were taken cannot be disputed."

Do your reading

The last thing a student needs is yet more required reading, but in the case of your tenancy agreement, it is vital.

Joanne says: "We are used to being faced with legal agreements that very few people bother to read. However, the tenancy agreement, although a rather dreary document, is very important. It contains all the terms and conditions between you and the landlord and can differ wildly from one property to the next.

"It might contain strict instructions on what you will need to do when you move out. This might include completing a check-list on the condition of certain fixtures and appliances, or even hiring a professional cleaner. It is definitely not a case of 'just sign here'."

Protect your pocket

Since April 2007, it has been a legal requirement that landlords hand over any deposit they receive to the government-run 'Tenancy Deposit Protection Scheme'.

"TDP schemes are a legal requirement, but that doesn't necessarily mean your deposit is protected", says Joanne. "You should always ask your landlord for proof that your deposit is protected and – if you are still unsure – you can use the three online checkers for the Dispute Service (TDS), Deposit Protection Service (DPS) and mydeposits.

"The landlord should provide you with specific information regarding the deposit no later than 30 days after they receive it. This includes confirmation that the deposit is protected, where it is held and how to get it back. If they fail to do so, you may be able to make a claim of up to three times the deposit amount."

Consult the inventory

Joanne suggests that even if you are not offered an inventory by your landlord, it is a good idea to ask for one. "The inventory is good for landlords and good for tenants. The landlord gets a comprehensive account of all his belongings, furniture, crockery and cutlery. The tenant knows what's theirs and what belongs to the landlord, even after several months – or even years - of everything being muddled together. This also prevents any disputes over missing items."

If you break it, buy it

Accidents happen but when it's the landlord's property it will fall to you to replace it – like for like. Even in cases where items looking worse for wear after surviving several careless tenants, if it is you that ultimately breaks the wobbly chair, you will likely be expected to buy a new one.

In such cases, Joanne recommends doing it sooner rather than later. "If you replace the broken item during your tenancy, you can often find a reasonable replacement for very little money. Landlords will often fill their apartment with budget items that are easily replaced and you should have little trouble finding a similar or identical substitute.

"However, if you leave it until the end of your tenancy – or don't replace the item at all – the landlord will charge you. This could be a fair amount or could be substantially higher."

Scrub up well

Student flats have a perhaps unfair reputation for a lax standard of hygiene. But even if you're utterly house proud, you have an obligation to return the flat exactly as you found it. While general wear and tear is understandable, and shouldn't affect your deposit, you shouldn't give the landlord an opportunity to air a grievance when you move out.

"Before moving out, invest in some proper cleaning products and take each room in turn. This includes communal areas and you should agree with any housemates to share the work between you.

"You should also clear out any rubbish, the contents of any drawers and not forgetting the fridge and freezer. The landlord or management company may well charge you to have these items removed.

If in doubt, get expert advice

Even after following all of the above steps, sometimes you can encounter a stubborn landlord desperate to cling on to your deposit.

If when summer rolls around and you're still unable to recover some or all of your deposit, you should consider seeking the advice of an expert in this area.

In this situation, there are a number of legal avenues open to you, including 'alternative dispute resolution' and taking the matter to court.

Joanne says: "A specialist housing solicitor will be able to advise the best course of action when dealing with a dispute over a security deposit."

Joanne Ellis

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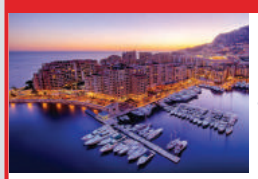

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Screams and seasonal crafts on schedule at borough's parks

WEST Lancs Council's Parks and Countryside Ranger Service has lined up some fantastic free events for October, from Halloween screams to seasonal autumn crafts.

On Monday, October 2 residents can stride out with the Rangers on a six-mile Burscough Loop Walk, starting from the entrance of Richmond Park at 10am.

No booking is required, simply turn up and be ready to set off on time.

Then on Wednesday, October 4 the latest Orchard Restoration Day takes place at Beacon Country Park.

This is part of a series of events to restore the Beacon Park Orchard and is an opportunity to find out more about orchards and how to look after fruit trees. It starts at 10am and to book places call 01695 622794.

Children aged between five and 12 can discover the wonderful colours at this time of year with seasonal crafts and activities to get them into the autumnal spirit at the Junior Rangers Autumn Watch events.

These take place at Richmond Park, Burscough, on Saturday, October 14 and Stanley Coronation Park, Skelmersdale on Sunday, October 15, both starting at 2pm.

Councillor Yvonne Gagen

For more information, and to book places, contact Anne Faulkner, Park Ranger, on 01695 570258. Children under eight must be accompanied by an adult.

Meanwhile just before Halloween people can enjoy carving scary pumpkins at Stanley Coronation Park, Skelmersdale on Saturday, October 28 from 10am and at Richmond Park, Burscough from 2pm on the same day.

Another pumpkin-carving session is planned at Coronation Park, Ormskirk at 2pm on Sunday, October 29.

Booking is essential for the pumpkin carving. To reserve your place, call 01695 570258 or 01695 622794.

Pumpkins produced at the carving sessions will then be dotted around Coronation Park, Ormskirk, on Halloween night.

And the best three pumpkins will be given a prize at the free Halloween event on Tuesday, October 31, when there will be plenty of scary goings on between 6 and 8pm, including scary walks through the woods with vampires, witches and ghosts.

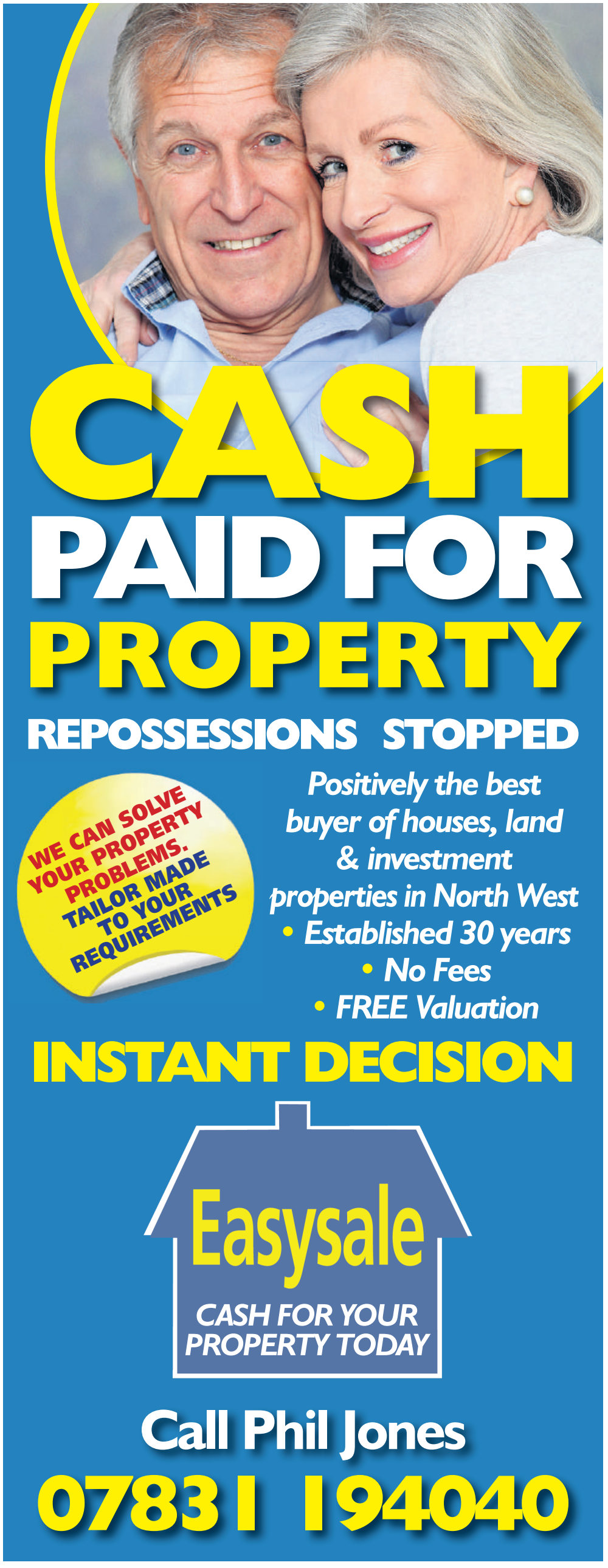
Fantastic

Live Halloween music will be provided by The Doctors.

Councillor Yvonne Gagen, West Lancs Council's portfolio holder for leisure, said: "Come along to Coronation Park, Ormskirk for an evening of fantastic frights and stupendous screams on Halloween night. There are plenty of other great free events in our parks this month, so make sure you don't miss all the fun."

Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult at all these events, except for the Junior Rangers events which have separate arrangements.

People are asked to wear suitable footwear and clothing for the weather, ground conditions and the planned activity.



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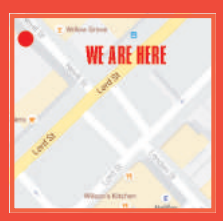

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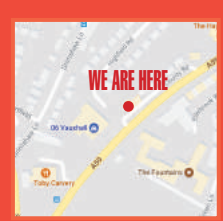

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Group playing in Parbold before touring USA

ONE of the liveliest and vibrant music groups of their generation, the Elias Quartet arrives at Parbold Douglas Music to perform in a series of events in Parbold over two days, culminating in an evening concert in the Auditorium, Village Hall on Saturday, October 7 at 7.45 pm.

Their evening programme includes favourites by Brahms, Webern and Bartok.

Formed at the Royal Northern College of Music in 1998, they now have a globetrotting career. Having recently played in Paris and at the BBC Proms, they will shortly tour the USA.

Known for their intense performances and the 'remarkable ability to live and breathe each phrase with an enraptured sensitivity' (The Strad), the Elias quartet has collaborated with some of the finest musicians and played in the world's great venues. They are known for their lively personalities and joy in music which is why this concert ends with a Post-Concert session of Scottish Fiddle Music, free to Saturday concert ticket-holders.

One of the violinists, Donald Grant was brought up in a small village in the Highlands of Scotland and, when not running around the hills or climbing, he could be found playing music of all sorts. It quickly became his life's passion and he grew up immersed in traditional music. On the Saturday afternoon, the musicians will lead a Scottish Fiddle Music Workshop from 1 to 5 pm., which is co-ordinated in association with Folkus, The Folk Arts Network of the Northwest.

The Elias Quartet

On the Friday, they will be giving two of Parbold Douglas Music's Pied Piper concerts for over 400 primary school children from Skelmersdale, Mawdesley, Lathom, Dalton, Hilldale and Parbold. The concerts will include performance, participation by the children in games, rhythmical exercises, singing and similar activities.

To book, order tickets: online log on to www.parbolddouglasmusic.org, or by email: at tickets@parbolddouglasmusic.org, or telephone 01257 498452 (booking answerphone).

Douglas Music has set up a 'Shuttle to the Show' service to offer a subsidised mini-coach service to and from its concerts for members of the audience who wish to enjoy an evening of world–class music without the trouble of driving or do not have access to public transport. Call 01704 893373.

Moonwalk the night away with King of Pop

GET ready to moonwalk the night away at a Michael Jackson tribute show whose star performer 'Navi' once earned a standing ovation from the King of Pop himself.

King Of Pop – The Legend Continues returns to Southport Theatre this Saturday (September 30) at 7.30pm after a debut visit in 2016.

However, this is certainly no ordinary tribute show. The cast is led by impersonator 'Navi' who is considered the leading and most successful Michael Jackson tribute artist on the planet. In a glittering career spanning over two decades in 57 different countries, Navi's career highlight came in 2003 when he was invited to perform at Michael Jackson's 45th birthday party in Los Angeles.

Michael not only applauded Navi but went on to give him a standing ovation and thumbs up. This was an incredible moment for Navi which was captured on film. "To meet Michael was one thing, but to perform in front of the greatest entertainer of all time and to perform his songs was no easy feat and extremely nerve-wracking," said Navi.

Navi is joined by Michael Jackson's guitarist – Jennifer Batten - Michael's 'right-hand woman' on three sell-out world tours. Initially picked to play on the Bad Tour, Michael was so impressed that she joined him for the next 10 years.

Navi and Jennifer

Western Boots

New Linedancer Class

at Aughton Village Hall, Winifreds Lane

EVERY WEDNESDAY Starting 4th October

BEGINNERS CLASS 7pm - 7.45pm

IMPROVERS 7.45pm - 8.30pm

INTERMEDIATE 8.30pm - 10pm

Come along on your own or with a friend and have some fun!

For more details contact Gill 07989 677525

Maghull Musical Theatre Company

Presents

made in Dagenham THE MUSICAL

"A hilariously funny musical"

Remember the Sixties? Barbara Castle Harold Wilson The TUC Strikes?

"Watch your language Beryl" b#!%&@#ks

"If you want something done ask a busy woman"

"Nothing changes if it isn't challenged"

"Poignant and relevant. Amazing music"

Wednesday 8th - Saturday 11th November 2017

at 7:30pm

(Matinee Saturday at 2:15pm)

Little Theatre Southport - Tickets: £15.00

Advance bookings to Betty & Graham on 01695 632 372

and then from Wednesday 1st November to Little Theatre Box Office on 01704 530 521

Based on the Woolley/Karlsen/ Number 9 Motion Picture
Financed by the BBC, BMS Film Finance, BFI and Lip Sync Productions
Directed by NIGEL COLE • Screenplay by WILLIAM IVORY

Book by: RICHARD BENN • Music by DAVID ARNOLD • Lyrics by RICHARD THOMAS

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL (EUROPE) LTD.

www.maghullmtc.co.uk

Sensational value Hotel Breaks

All dates include Dinner, Bed & Breakfast!

Blackpool

Grand Metropole Hotel Blackpool
• Lift • Car Park (fee) • Entertainment
2 FOR 1 BAR DEALS 6-9pm selected dates
★2 Nights Arrive Friday 29 Sep, 6, 13, 20, 27 Oct, 3, 10, 17, 24 Nov from £79.95
★4 Nights Arrive Monday 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Oct, 6, 13, 20, 27 Nov, 4, 11 Dec from £139.95

Hacketts Hotel Blackpool
• Lift • Car Park • Entertainment
★Seafront hotel close to North Pier★
★2 Nights Arrive Friday 29 Sep, 6, 13, 20, 27 Oct, 3, 10, 17, 24 Nov from £55
★4 Nights Arrive Monday 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Oct, 6, 13, 20, 27 Nov, 4, 11 Dec from £99.95

2/4 Nights from £55

Blackpool Illuminations 1 Sep-5 Nov

Scarborough

Clifton Hotel Scarborough
• Overlooking North Bay • Lift • Car Park (fee)
2 FOR 1 BAR DEALS 6-9pm selected dates
★2 Nights Arrive Friday 29 Sep, 6, 13, 20, 27 Oct, 3, 10, 17, 24 Nov from £79.95
★4 Nights Arrive Monday 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Oct, 6, 13, 20, 27 Nov, 4, 11, 18 Dec from £99.95

Royal Hotel Scarborough
• Lift • Indoor Pool • Town Centre
★Famous hotel with sea views★
★2 Nights Arrive Friday 6, 13, 20, 27 Oct, 3, 10, 17, 24 Nov, 1, 8, 15 Dec from £75
★4 Nights Arrive Monday 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Oct, 6, 13, 20, 27 Nov, 4, 11 Dec from £149.95

2/4 Nights from £75

Llandudno

GALA CABARET SHOW Risboro Hotel
All dates! 3 course candlelit dinner, background singing followed by fabulous cabaret. Also free tea and biscuits on Thursday and Saturday afternoon

1/2/3/4 Nights from £29.95

Risboro Hotel
Tastefully furnished hotel, ideally positioned a short stroll from the pier, central shopping area and Great Orme Tram Station.Lift. Car Park. Entertainment. Indoor Pool.
★1 Night Arrive Sunday from £29.95 1, 15 Oct, 12, 19, 26 Nov, 17 Dec, 18, 25 Feb 2018
★2 Nights Arrive Friday from £49.95 6, 13 Oct, 3, 10, 24 Nov, 1, 8, 15 Dec, 26 Jan, 2 Feb
★3 Nights Arrive Friday from £79.95 16, 23 Feb 2018, 9, 16, 23, 30 Mar, 6, 13, 20, 27 Apr
★4 Nights Arrive Monday from £99.95 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Oct, 6, 13, 20, 27 Nov, 4, 11 Dec, 5, 12, 19, 26 Feb

Ambassador Hotel
Owned by three generations of the Williams family, the Ambassador is a uniquely sited traditional hotel, siutated on the promenade close to many attractions. Seafront. Lift. Car Park (fee).
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★2 Nights Arrive Friday from £69.95 29 Sep, 6, 13, 20, 27 Oct, 3, 10, 17, 24 Nov, 1, 8, 15 Dec
★3 Nights Arrive Friday from £99.95 29 Sep, 6, 13, 20, 27 Oct, 3, 10, 17, 24 Nov, 1, 8, 15 Dec
★4 Nights Arrive Monday from £99.95 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Oct, 6, 13, 20, 27 Nov, 4, 11 Dec, 15, 22, 29 Jan

Christmas/Yuletide /New Year from £89.95

Book now or Call for Brochure

ukbreakaways.com

0844 682 2595

Subject to availability. Calls cost 7p per minute plus your network access charge.

Palace Hotel Buxton
• Lift • Car Park (fee) • Indoor Pool
★Visit Bakewell & Peak District★
★1 Night Arrive Sunday from £39.95 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Oct, 5, 12, 19, 26 Nov, 3, 10 Dec
★2 Nights Arrive Monday from £79.95 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Oct, 6, 13, 20, 27 Nov, 4, 11, 18 Dec

Derwentwater Hotel Keswick
• Stunning Lake Views • Car Park
★A Coast & Country Hotel★
★3 Nights Arrive Friday from £155 29 Sep, 6, 13, 20, 27 Oct, 3, 10, 17, 24 Nov
★4 Nights Arrive Monday from £199 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Oct, 6, 13, 20, 27 Nov, 4, 11, 18 Dec

Britannia Hotel, Bramhope Nr Harrogate
• Lift • Car Park • Indoor Pool
★2 for 1 BAR DEALS 6pm-9pm selected dates★
★2 Nights Arrive Friday from £85 29 Sep, 6, 13, 20, 27 Oct, 3*, 10*, 17*, 24* Nov
★4 Nights Arrive Monday from £139.95 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Oct, 6*, 13*, 20*, 27* Nov, 4*, 11* Dec

Glen Usk Hotel Llandrindod Wells
• Lift • Car Park • Town Centre
★Victorian spa town in heart of Wales★
★2 Nights Arrive Friday from £65 29 Sep, 6, 13, 20, 27 Oct, 3, 10, 17, 24 Nov
★4 Nights Arrive Monday from £129.95 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Oct, 6, 13, 20, 27 Nov, 5, 12, 19, 26 Mar

Celebrate in Style this Christmas

GIVE YOUR CHRISTMAS SOME SPARKLE

NOW TAKING BOOKINGS FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON

Chef has put his magic into his choice of Christmas Fayre this year

Christmas Menus start from Monday 27th November

LUNCH TIME PARTY MENU
from £16.50pp
served Monday to Saturday 12-2.15pm

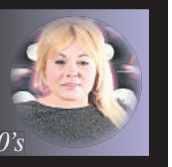
EVENING PARTY MENU
from £19.99pp

BOXING DAY
£29.99pp
served from 12-4pm

CHRISTMAS PARTY ENTERTAINMENT NIGHTS

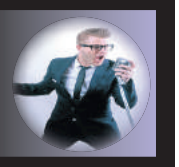
Friday 1st December
Chris Stewart
The King of Swing & Rock n Roll

Saturday 2nd December
Miss Claudia Ann
Talented Little Diva with toe tapping tunes from the 70's & 80's



Friday 8th December
Miss Claudia Ann
Talented Little Diva with toe tapping tunes from the 70's & 80's

Saturday 9th December
Chris Stewart
The King of Swing & Rock n Roll



Friday 15th December
Max Peters
From rat pack to Billy Joel & Robbie Williams, Max is sure to entertain you

Saturday 16th December
Max Peters
From rat pack to Billy Joel & Robbie Williams, Max is sure to entertain you

Friday 22nd December
Miss Claudia Ann
Talented Little Diva with toe tapping tunes from the 70's & 80's

Saturday 23rd December
Chris Stewart
The King of Swing & Rock n Roll

USUAL MENUS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE OVER THE FESTIVE PERIOD.
BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT.

Alexander's Brasserie @ The Rufford Arms Hotel
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Entertainments

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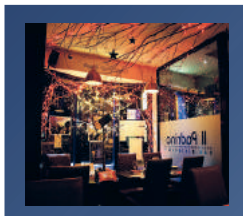
DINING OUT



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THEATRES

BOS MUSICAL THEATRE COMPANY Presents

noda Be inspired by amateur theatre

Music and Lyrics by Dolly Parton
Book by Patricia Resnick
Based on the 20th Century Fox Picture
Originally produced on Broadway by Robert Greenblatt, April 2009

Little Theatre
Hoghton Street, Southport

Parental discretion is strongly advised due to adult themes
This amateur production is presented by arrangement with JOSEF WEINDBERGER LTD. on behalf of MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL of NEW YORK.

7th - 14th October 2017
Nightly Performances at 7.30pm
Matinee on Saturday at 2.00pm

Advanced booking line 0333 666 3366 - **Tickets on sale now**
Customers can now book online: **bosmtc.co.uk**
Theatre Box Office opens: Saturday, 30th September. 11am - 2.30pm daily 01704 530521

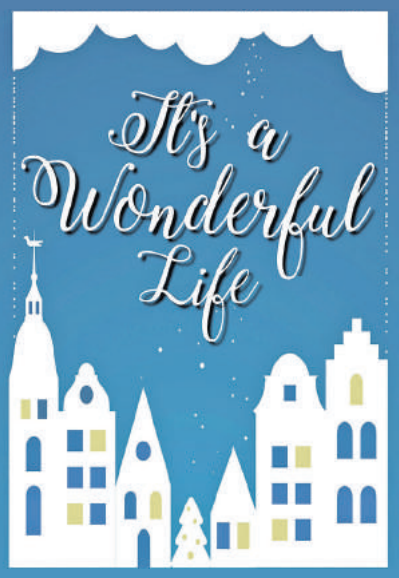
Entertainments

EVENTS - OUT & ABOUT

Tickets £8
01704
560229

28th - 30th
September 2017
The Civic, Ormskirk

The classic Frank Capra film brought to life on stage



Produced by special arrangement with playscripts inc

A live radio play - adapted by Joe Landry

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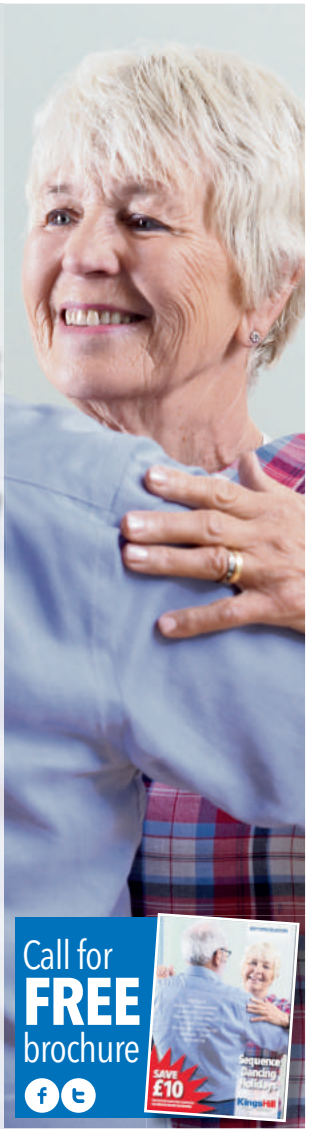

THEATRES

WHAT'S ON 2017

September

THE ILLEGAL EAGLES
Friday 29th

KING OF POP - THE LEGEND CONTINUES
Saturday 30th

October

JOE LONGTHORNE (rearranged date)
Wednesday 4th

THE ELO EXPERIENCE
Friday 6th

SHOWADDYWADDY
Saturday 7th

THE WIZARD OF OZ
The perfect half term treat!
Tuesday 24th - Thursday 26th

FASTLOVE - A TRIBUTE TO GEORGE MICHAEL
Friday 27th

THE SOLID GOLD ROCK N ROLL SHOW featuring MARTY WILDE, EDEN KANE, MIKE BERRY, MARK WYNTER and THE WILDCATS
Tuesday 31st

November

JOHN MAYALL IN CONCERT
Wednesday 1st

MIDGE URE, THE CHRISTIANS, ALTERED IMAGES
Saturday 4th

ONE NIGHT OF QUEEN
Thursday 11th

BOWIE EXPERIENCE - THE GOLDEN YEARS TOUR
Saturday 11th

November

THE WORLD FAMOUS ELVIS SHOW
Friday 17th

DR HOOK FEATURING DENNIS LOCORRIERE
Saturday 18th

JIMMY CARR - THE ULTIMATE, GOLD, GREATEST HITS TOUR
Tuesday 21st

ISLANDS IN THE STREAM
Thursday 23rd

THE SENSATIONAL 60's EXPERIENCE – MIKE PENDER, CHRIS FARLOWE, HERMAN'S HERMITS, THE FORTUNES and NEW AMEN CORNER
Friday 24th

KEN DODD HAPPINESS SHOW
Saturday 25th

ROY WOOD ROCK & ROLL BAND
Thursday 30th

December

ROB BRYDON I AM STANDING UP
Friday 1st

CHRISTMAS MEMORIES
A nostalgic afternoon of entertainment
Wednesday 6th 2.30pm (Floral Hall)

TICKETS NOW ON SALE

JOE LYCETT: I'M ABOUT TO LOSE CONTROL AND I THINK JOE LYCETT
Fri 28th September 2018

Southport Theatre & Convention Centre

0844 871 3021* ATG TICKETS
(Mon - Sat: 9am - 10pm: Sun 10am - 8pm)
www.atgtickets.com/southport*

BOX OFFICE OPENS: MON - SAT 11AM - 4PM
GROUPS 10+: 0330 102 7534
*CALLS COST 7PPM PLUS YOUR PHONE COMPANY'S ACCESS CHARGE. FEES APPLY.

EVENTS - OUT & ABOUT

The SHIP Lathom

Croc-tober

Monday to Friday
from 2nd October until 31st October
3 COURSE TASTER MENU
served 12noon until 6pm
only £12

Croc's Quiz

THURSDAY NIGHT QUIZ
Hosted by Croc from 9pm
Starting 5th October
A quiz for everyone! Free to enter!
Prizes to be won!

6 LOCAL REAL ALES ALWAYS AVAILABLE
(IN THE 2018 GOOD BEER GUIDE)

OPEN ALL DAY EVERY DAY FOR FOOD & DRINKFROM 12 NOON

CHRISTMAS MENUS NOW AVAILABLE AT
www.shipatlatham.co.uk

The Ship at Lathom Country Inn & Dining
4 Wheat Lane Lathom L40 4BX
Tel: **01704 893117** www.**shipatlathom.co.uk**

FAIRS & SALES

ANTIQUE, VINTAGE COLLECTORS FAIR
Rufford Village Hall Rufford L40 1SW
(A59 Liverpool to Preston Rd)
Sunday 1st October 10am-4pm
First Sunday each Month
ENQ. 07976 915220
Refreshments Available

The Vintage & Craft Collectives
VINTAGE & CRAFT FAIR
At The Toby Carvery, County Road, Ormskirk
Sunday 1st October 2017 • 10am - 4pm
Free Admission
Featuring singer Suzie Sequin as Marilyn Monroe
20+ Quality Handmade & Vintage Stalls
Enquiries: 01695 573110
To book a stall: helenabbeydale@aol.com

FAIRS & SALES

LYDIATE SCOUTS CAR BOOT SALE
SATURDAY 30th September (from 7.30am)
Lydiate Parish Hall Field L31 4EQ
£7.00 per Car
(Vans & Large Stalls will be charged extra)
• Full indoor facilities & refreshments
• Plenty of parking and stalls
ALL PROCEEDS TO GROUP FUNDS
Contact us at cbs@lydiatescouts.org.uk
Or www.lydiatescouts.org.uk/carbootsale

CAR BOOT
Stanley High School Southport
Saturday 30th September
Stall Holders arrive from 7.30am
Trading 8.30am - 1pm
Indoor hall with table £10
Indoor/Outdoor spaces £8
FREE PARKING Refreshments available
Well attended, established sale
01704 228940 to book
NO TRADERS OR VANS

Check out **champnews.com**

HOLIDAYS & TRAVEL

£2 OFF PER PITCH THIS SATURDAY 30th September (Banks) on production of this voucher

BANKS BOOT SALE
EVERY SATURDAY
At Ralph's Wife's Lane, Banks, Nr Southport PR9 8ER
A565 Tarleton to Southport Road, turn at Small Banks Roundabout into Banks Road and we are 1/2 mile on right.
Pitches £10.00 (per car) - Transits POA

BURSCOUGH GIANT BOOT SALE
EVERY SUNDAY
NOW LOCATED AT WHITEDIAL FARM
MOSS LANE, RUFFORD L40 4AT
Half way between Burscough Bridge Station and Rufford on the main A59.
Pitches £12.00 per car - Transits P.O.A

BOTH VERY BUSY VENUES
QUALITY MEAT AUCTION - BURGER VANS - ICE CREAM - FLUSHING TOILETS
No need to book - just turn up - 5.30am - 7.30am **Pay on entrance to site • Est 24yrs.**
No food or drinks sales allowed • All unsold goods and rubbish to be removed by the seller
- ALL ENQUIRIES -
Tel. upto 8.00pm any evening or after 5.00am on actual day of sale.
Tel: 07710 929927 or 07831 123830 burscoughgiantbootsale

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FESTIVE BREAK LAKE DISTRICT
Mon 20th November
5 Days £199
*4 nights DBB (Shap Wells Hotel)
*Entertainment
*Excursions
*Coach Travel

Bargain Break Llandudno
Kings of Swing Tribute Night
Sunday 29th Oct
2 days only £79

Turkey & Tinsel Break
Discover the Lakes
Mon 4th December
5 days only £209
Includes:
*4 nights Half Board (Cumbria Grand Hotel)
*Entertainment
*Cruise on Lake Windermere
*Excursions
*Coach Travel

LONGLEAT FESTIVAL OF LIGHT & BATH XMAS MARKET
3 day tour £189
Sat 25th November
Price includes:
*2 nights DBB
*Entrance to Longleat House, Gardens & Festival of Light
*Visit to Bath Christmas Market

Grassington Dickensian Festival
Fri 8th December
3 days only £149
Price includes:
*2 nights DBB Cumbria Grand Hotel
*visit Grassington Dickensian Festival &
*Skipton Medieval Festival

WARNER BREAKS
LITTLECOTE HOUSE
Mon 30th October
5 days £339
HOLME LACY
Mon 6th November
5 days £339
BEMBRIDGE
Fri 3rd November
4 days only £189
NORTON GRANGE
Mon 13th November
5 days £269 (drinks inc)
ALVASTON HALL HOTEL
Mon 18th December
5 days £249
ALVASTON HALL HOTEL
Mon 8th January
5 days £219
NIDD HALL HOTEL
Mon 5th February
5 days £259
THORESBY HALL HOTEL
Mon 19th February
5 days £279

EDINBURGH CHRISTMAS MARKET
Sun 26th November
3 Days £149
Price includes:
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* Luxury Coach Travel
* Reserved seats on coach

September/October Day Excursions

Fri 29th	Emmerdale Studio Experience *inc admission*	£33.90
Sat 30th	City of Oxford	£19.90
Sun 1st	Haverthwaite Railway, Lake Cruise & Bowness *inc*	£26.90
Tue 3rd	Skipton, Embsay Railway & Bolton Abbey *inc guide*	£26.90
Thu 5th	Oswaldtwistle Mill, Funday Fortunes *inc lunch & ent.*	£26.90
Sun 8th	Welsh Alpine Circular & Snowdon Mountain Railway *inc*	£36.90
Tue 10th	Colwyn Bay & Llanduduno	£13.90
Sat 14th	Blackpool & Tour of Illuminations	£14.90
Sun 15th	Autumn Tints in the Lakes	£15.90
Wed 18th	Boundary Mill & Blackpool Illuminations	£25.90
Sun 22nd	Emmerdale Village Tour	£43.90
Mon 23rd	RAF Museum, Cosford	£15.90

PICK UP POINTS @ Formby, Ainsdale, Hillside, Southport, Ormskirk & Skelmersdale
book online @ www.timewells.co.uk or call 0151 526 3209

EVENTS - OUT & ABOUT

NORTH WEST SHIP SHOW
Saturday 30 September 10am - 3.30pm
Old Christ Church, Waterloo Road, Liverpool, L22 1RE
Adult £3
Concession £2
Under 12 Free
• Books
• Collectables
• Postcards
• Ephemera
• Model Boats
• Boat Kits
• Artwork
• Photos

Star of Channel 4 My Psychic Life
Spirit Medium
David Traynor
Friday 6th Oct
Upholland Labour Club
Skelmersdale, WN8 9AR
Tickets only £12 online no fees
DavidTraynor.com
or £14 tel: 01457 870036
to reserve tickets and then pay on the door
8.00pm Start

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Entertainments

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Strictly Ballroom
Beginner Ballroom & Latin Class
New season starts this Friday
Every Friday 7pm - 8pm
£27.50 per person for 5 WEEK TERM
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or email: info@mcdonalddanceacademy.co.uk
See website for other more adult & children's classes
www.mcdonalddanceacademy.co.uk

Pat Thompson's DANCE CENTRE
Now at **Melling Tithebarn** L31 1EE
EVERY MONDAY
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New Beginners Class
Starting Wednesday 11th October 2017
7pm - 8pm • £3.50

EASY LINE DANCE ROUTINES
Ideal if you've never danced before, if you want to return to dance or are of a certain age and want to stay active. You'll have great fun and make new friends.

CLASS STRUCTURE
Absolute Beginners and reviews 7-8pm
Improvers and reviews 8-9pm
Intermediate and requests 9-10pm

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Wright Street, Southport
From 7pm to 10pm
ALL WELCOME COME ALONG
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FRENCH/RUSSIAN, GCSE/A-LEVEL
Experienced Teacher.
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GIRLS BIKE Girls pink Apollo Vivid bike from Half words. In mint condition, 18 gears. Suitable for ages 7 -12 £40 07966764826

CLOTHING

ASICS TRAINERS In excellent condition look stunning, womens 7 ½ shoe size, diva pink black/white worn once £15 01695632166

GENTS SUIT
Brand new gents' suit, which still has labels on. Bought from Next, 36 inch waste, regular leg, jacket 40 regular, charcoal grey in colour, genuine reason for sale. £59.00

07387439004

KATHY VANZEELAND Ladies modern oyster colour brand new shoulder bag with dustbag £25 no text ring only 07504685036

CLOTHING

LADIES DRESS AND JACKET Fully beaded black edge to edge jacket and dress, size 16. Jacket has long sleeves and both only been worn once. Ideal for special occasion, can email photograph. £20.00 07387439004

LADIES CLOTHES Ladies Dresses, Skirts, Tops, Sizes 10 and 12, In Lovely Condition, Over 15 Items. £20. 01515269326

JAGEAR SIZE 10 Ladies short sleeved light weight coral trouser suit, Ex Condition £15 07989677525

LADIES LEATHER Black lace up with side zip flat boots with croc skin effect Size 39 Ex Cond in original box £15 07989677525

LADIES SOFT Leather Joe Sanchez black cowboy boots size 5 with Fringe Trim, Ex Condition as new £20 07989677525

COMPUTING

COMPUTER SCREENS keyboards, box of cables etc. Clear out offers. Ormskirk 01704778494

COMPUTER DESK/WORKSTATION beech wood on wheels may deliver £40 ono 01515263851

DELL 755 desktop pc, core2duo 2.2, 160gb, 2gb ram, genuine Windows 10, 17 monitor, keyboard, mouse, full working order £110 01704831977

IPHONESE 32GB Brand new, unwanted upgrade, silver white, unlocked, box etc, bargain £325 01704831977

DIY

WANTED Hand grinder or small hand drill 07969955941

ELECTRIC MOTOR 1/2horsepower with manual detachable drive and brake, forward and reverse feature £20 Southport 214498

MAKRON GENERATOR 240+110 volt output, petrol, ohh motor, needs attention, spares or repair £25 ono Southport 214498

GARDENING

WANTED Flymo lightweight old type mower must have metal blades 07969955941

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PERSONAL

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GARDENING

POND PUMPS 2 Blagdon pond pumps 1 x P2500 £25 &1 P3000 £30 also water lilies at £1 each 01704 893748

HAYTER 48PRO Petrol mower used in good condition can deliver local. £250.00 07740777995

BIRD TABLE Joiner made wooden bird table, treated timber, complete with feeders £28 01704 892291

HOBBIES

VINTAGE CAMERA. Ilford Super Sporti 120 film camera with the Dacora lense. Complete with leather case. Made in pre-unification Western Germany circa 1960.£25.00 01704 546978

GROVER TUNERS 6 Rotomatic high quality 18-1 tuning machine heads suitable for 3+3 Gibson, PSR etc guitar headstock, brand new and un-used £40 01704831977

GIBSON PICKUP Retail boxed genuine 490T double black bridge pickup. Genuine USA, full length armoured cable, excellent condition £85 01704831977

GUITAR TUNER Boss Tu-15 chromatic guitar and bass tuner, as new, original box. Professional tuning device £60 01704831977

BOAT RODS Silstar 360 Boat rod with TF fixed spool reel Ron Thompson Boat Rod with Shakespear Beta 20 Multiplier £20 Skelmersdale 0775649701

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

TELEVISION Digital/freeview tv 22inch screen remote control ideal child's bedroom good condition £20 ono Southport area 07927 929996/01704 225424

CD PLAYER AIWA CD Player, XC300, complete with remote control. Black. Excellent sound and condition. £30 01704 893484

CD STORAGE Revolving wooden mahogany storage unit with 64 individual storage racks. Nice condition. Size H 35 x W 30 x D 30 cm £20 01704 560150

STEREO SEPARATES 2 Acoustic Research speakers, a Nad Amplifier and a Denon CD player. All in very good condition. £150 ono 07709321569

HOUSE AND HOME

CONSERVATORY LIGHT/FAN with 4 cream blades, 3 light fittings with shades and two matching wall lights. Excellent condition. £20 01695424797

KEYBOARD STAND black folding plus Berkeley 61 keyboard dust cover, both hardly used and in excellent condition - original cost £30 sell £15 01695424797

MOVING HOME? 4 double wardrobe hanging boxes and 24 medium storage boxes in good condition £25.00 07742028234

SIDEBOARD light oak coloured sideboard two side cupboards plus two drawers and small cupboard in centre excellent condition £75 07751924207

CORNER UNIT tall slim mahogany corner unit with lit glass display and cupboard below excellent condition £100 07751924207

DINING CHAIRS Black faux leather dining/kitchen chairs (2) modern design vgc can email photos no marks £25 each Ono southport area 07927 929996/01704 225424

OFFICE CHAIR Grey fabric swivel office/computer chair the height can be adjusted vgc £10 Southport area 07927929996/01704225424

BUCKET CHAIR Cream from Next. Has slight mark on the back hence price. I can email photo. Southport area £15 07927 929996/01704 225424

GOOD QUALITY Matching TV Unit, Coffee Table & Sideboard, Solid Dark Mahogany, Hi Polish finish, Originally Paid £1500 will accept £400 ono 0151 2341794

DYSON CYLINDER CLEANER Dyson DC05 bagless cyclonic vacuum cleaner with on board tools, cord rewind and telescopic handle. Good working order. £50 01704 560150

HOUSE AND HOME

ANTLER SUITCASE Large soft bodied expandable black trolley suitcase with retractable handle and 2 wheels. Very good condition. £15 01704 560150

WHIRLPOOL AMERICAN FRIDGE/FREEZER Excellent condition and in full working order but please note slight cosmetic damage to one shelf fitting. £250 ovno Ormskirk 07975888195

COMPUTER DESK Right Handed Computer desk. Excellent condition. Beech effect. 6ft approx. £80 Ormskirk 0797588895

3 DRAWER DESK PEDESTAL Beech effect. Excellent condition. £45 Ormskirk 07975888195

HARVEY'S SOFAS 3&2 seater grey blush,11 months old with receipt, removable covers on cushions and armrests.Excellent condition. Bargain £550 07517530495

JOHN LEWIS glass and chrome console table 104x40 cms. As new condition . Easy to transport 07966101288

NEXT SMOKE grey glass bulbous table lamp. Cost £45 accept £12 ono As new 01704 821720 or 07966101288

GLASS AND chrome 60cm square coffee or side table. Immaculate. £20 cost over £100 01704 821720 or 07966101288

KENWOOD ORIGINAL slow cooker. Little used. £10 ono 01704 821720 or 07966101288

SLIMLINE DISHWASHER white Beko, 17 and half inches wide, nearly new, £50.00, Ormskirk area. 07719094029

FANTASTIC FIREPLACE Tiled insett Heavy brass interior with outer wooden surround pics supplied. Looks classy Accept £120 with fire 07767790187

SHOWER SCREENS Complete Atlas 1400 walk in shower clean plus glass screens with return fits 1400-1700 tray in boxes £150 01704 573121

LLADRO FIGURES Several Lladro figurines in various sizes and ranging in price. 01704 573121

WHITE KITCHEN 18 High gloss white kitchen Chrome tear drop handles,brushed chrome strip light with bulbs Ring for sizes and pictures Reasonable offers 07592917887

DEBENHAMS LONG TABLECLOTH Dark wine damask extra long used once with 4 place mats g8 for occasions £9 no text ring only 07504685036

FURNITURE BARGAIN 2 x Straw Coloured Cloth Type 3 Seater Sofa's (w) 200cm x (H) 95cm x (D) 90cm. Matching footstool included (H) 60cm x (W) 60cm. Originally purchased from Stokers. Very good condition. May sell separately. Price £200 - 07772 757818

OFFICE SWIVEL chair blue fabric and beech wood excellent quality and condition may deliver £25 ono 01515263851

DINING CHAIRS 4 chrome hard back chairs £40 01695573966

LAMP SHADES Two good quality ceiling light shades both from BHS, one Cream with scolloped edge, one Wedgwood Blue in colour and again with scolloped edge. Also one new side table lamp shade Absolute Bargain, will separate. £10.00 07387439004

TABLE CLOTHS Five white table cloths, in good condition. Could be used either in the home, for party table cloths and also people who do buffets. Price for the lot. £20.00. 07387439004

WOODEN BLANKET CHEST 35" x 19" x 24" high. Nice condition in a medium oak with a panel design to front and sides Very strong and sturdy, not an antique.£59.00 07387439004

DINING TABLE Part drop leaf type, oak colour with chairs, collect from aintree only £50 01515316937

TEA SERVICE Royal Doulton 'Juno'. 6 cups, 6 saucers, 8 plates, milk jug, sugar bowl, large teapot. Brand new. Still boxed. £40 01704 877594

DOUBLE HEADBOARD Plain Oak £5 07791401543

HOUSE AND HOME

IKEA DAYBED 'Hemnes' white frame daybed. Can be used as sofa/single/double bed. Three large storage drawers. Needs some assembly. £100 - Burscough 07748 222622

SINGLE HEADBOARD White wood, with finials on each end. Good condition. £30 - Burscough 07748 222622

BT CORDLESS Handsets x 2. Graphite 2100, Black, Blue backlit display, boxed, good working order £10 01704 231007

3&2 SEATER RECLINER SOFS £300 3&2 seater recliner sofas Grey suede with black leather down the side of the arms in good condition 07926692817

CONSERVATORY FURNITURE Cane with Floral Design Material Double Seater Two Singles Dining Table Four Chairs Small Table Larger Table TallCabinet Pouffe £300 01704 878518

MISC

ALEISTER CROWLEY Thoth Tarot Deck rare edition Orbo Templi Orientis complete 78 cards illustrated by Lady Frieda Harris £25 07444805903

FILING CABINET Lockable light wood filing cabinet with three drawers good condition only used in home office £20 ono southport area 07927929996/01704225424

MISC

DESK Light wood. One drawer, used as computer desk. Length 38 inch, height 27inch, depth 16inch. Can email photo £15 07927 929996/01704 225424

COMPUTER CHAIR Grey fabric swivel chair adjustable height good condition £10 southport area 07927929996/01704225424

NEW LIGHTWEIGHT BACKPACK New. Small to medium size lightweight nylon backpack. In an attractive metallic medium green colour. Two additional external zipped pockets. £12.00 01704 546978

DARTBOARD AND DARTS Good quality as used on tele immaculate bargain £15 01515319425/07773242918

1989 LIVERPOOL fully signed football won on golden goal at anfield back in 1989 bargain £45 01515319425/07773242918

LADIES 4 wood pink head shaft and grip with head cover lovely club right handed bargain £10 01515319425/07773242918

TWO WOODEN TABLES Small drop leaf solid wooden tables. 19" high, 15" across when open. Folds down for easy storage. Width when fully closed only 4". Price for each table.£10.00. 07387439004

IPHONE4 32GB Excellent condition full working order, unlocked to any network, original box, cable and charger, case £100 01704831977

MISC

SAMSUNG S5830I Galaxy Ace 2 Smartphone, White, unlocked, good condition and full working order, box, charger £65 01704831977

FENDER AMPLIFIER FM212R Guitar Amplifier, 100W Output into 4 ohms. 2 Speakers, Footswitch. Connectivity for external effects devices, sound/recording equipment etc. £85 01704 620950

FENDER STRAT-STYLE Westfield Electric Guitar. Hardly used. £45 01704620950

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MOBILITY SCOOTER Auto folding, cost £1,700, almost new, will accept £900. 01704 565756

STAIRLIFT MINIVATOR 950 hardly used after being reconditioned, buyer responsible for installation £300 ONO 07729813928

2 BATTERIES for shop rider scooter, 36amp, good condition, fully charged, cost over £100, £50 ono Southport 214498

MOBILITY WALKER 3 wheel with bag, choice of 2, £15 each 0151 3783627

MOBILITY

TRANSIT WHEELCHAIR very comfortable, easily folds for transport, can deliver £55 Southport 214498

WALK IN BATH Mantelido Affinity walk in bath as new. Includes, shower fittings and screen. To be collected from Ormskirk. 01695 572830

MOTHER AND BABY

MAMIA HIGHCHAIR ideal for 6 months onwards, padded seat and back, hardly used in original box, excellent condition. £12. 01695424797

BABY GATE Good condition bargain £5 01515316937

MAMAS AND PAPAS. MAMAS and PAPAS Wardrobe and Chest of Drawers/Changer, Warm Oak, Good Condition.£65. 01515269326.

MOSES BASKET Mothercare Moses basket in white and grey with white wooden rocking stand. All in excellent condition!! £40 for everything 07834539794

MOTORING

COVER for large motor home, will fit 25 feet, never been out of the bag, £40 07788 752655

MOTORING

OZ RALLY WHEELS Four. Michelin. 185x60x14. Needs refurbishing. £75. 01704 876907

TOWING DOLLY Simple to use. One man operation.£300 01704 876907

STEERING COLUMN MGRV8 Unused still in box STEERING COLUMN FOR MG/ROVER RV8. PART NUMBER ZKC5706. It has been stored in garage. £250 01704 560150

PETS

FISHTANK 32 litres heater and new filter hexagon front £40 01695573966

PETS AT HOME Medium vivarium. Glass front/mesh top. Suitable for small reptiles/snake. Supplied with heatpad. Only used since May 2017 - £50 - Burscough 07748 222622

FISH TANK Small glass tank suitable for up to 4 goldfish or other similar small fish. Comes with pump/various accessories £25 - Burscough 07748 222622

SPORTS EQUIPMENT

GOLF TROLLEY Greenhill Push n Pull trolley in red, good condition, detachable wheels, weight 3.8kg. £15. 01704 576085

NORDICTRACK MULTIGYM Top of the range E8200 cost £1500 will accept £360 only a few months old selling due to illness pics 07767790187

JACK NICKLAUS left handed driver fast back dual point 10.5 loft first to see will buy its lovely £45 01515319425/07773242918

DUNLOPE LOCO left handed driver 10.5 loft carbon designed excellent bargain £10 01515319425/07773242918

KING COBRA left handed driver 10.5 loft aldila hm tour hardly used lovely bargain £35 01515319425/07773242918

FOOTBALL BOOTS Blue Nike size 5.5, White Umbro size 4, Purple Puma astro turf size 3, Orange Adidas size 5. £5 each 07858046342

VFIT Abdominus with Hand Pulse, manual included - ex condition £10 07989677525

TOYS AND GAMES

THOMAS TAKE&PLAY Tidmoth Sheds, Scrap Yard, Rescue from Misty Island, Roaring Dino Run, Great Quarry Climb, Track Pack. Excellent Condition £100 07709321569

MEGA BLOKS Lil Princess buildable 3 story enchanted castle. Complete with all pieces. Excellent Condition. £10 07709321569

CONSTRUCTION SET JCB Take & Play. Construction site split over 2 levels, 10 different vehicles. Folds away into a carry case. £10 07709321569

THOMAS DIECAST Large selection of Thomas trains with Thomas carry case. £3 each. Would consider selling as a bundle. Excellent condition. 07709321569

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Announcements

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CRAVEN EDWIN (EDDIE) GEORGE

Ida and Family wish to express their heartfelt thanks to relatives friends and everyone for the beautiful cards and messages of sympathy. Well over a 100 cards were received also Donations on behalf of Parkinson's Uk (Ormskirk Branch). Most of all it makes us so proud of dear Eddie to see so many people attending his Funeral service at St Michaels Aughton, a lovely service conducted by Rev. Michael Smout. To everybody at Springfield Court Care Home including the residents for all the good times and care given to Eddie. Thank you all so much. To Graham Clegg and Team for their help and care in the Funeral Arrangements, very much appreciated. God bless you all.

ASHTON JEAN

The family would like to thank everyone for their messages of sympathy, support shown and generous donations given for Queenscourt Hospice. Our thanks go to all staff at Churchtown Medical Centre and team of District Nurses for the care and support given. Thank you also to all the staff on Ward 15a at Southport Hospital for the wonderful care received. Grateful thanks to Rev. Martin Abrams for his visits, thoughtful ministrations and comforting words of support which have truly helped us all. Thank you to the Box Tree Kitchen in Churchtown for the lovely refreshments. Finally our heartfelt thanks to Carl and Nicky Howard at Howard's Funeral Directors, and the wonderful team for truly going the extra mile.

BURGOYNE WILLIAM BASIL

The family of the late William would like to thank all family & friends for their cards, kindness, messages of support and generous donations for the R.A.F. Association during their recent sad loss. A special thank you to Rev Pauline Bicknell for her kind ministrations. Thanks also to Hunters Funeral Directors for their dignified funeral arrangements.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

RIGBY ADA

Family of the late Ada Ribgy would like to express their heartfelt thanks to all relatives, friends and neighbours for all the messages of condolence, sympathy cards and donations for Queenscourt Hospice, received during their recent sad loss of a much loved Mum and Grandma. Thanks also to The Nursing staff at Springfield Court Nursing Home for all their nursing care given, Rev, Judith Ball for her kind ministrations and to Margaret Hunter and her team at MLS Independent Funeral Directors for their dignified Funeral arrangements.

ELLIS LEN

The family of the late Len Ellis would sincerely like to thank all family and friends who have been so supportive and wonderful at this sad time. Special thanks to all the staff at Aughton Park Care Home, especially Julie. Thanks to the Rev John Sephton and his team for regularly visiting Dad in the nursing home and for tending to his funeral. Thank you also to Dave Knowles and the Skelmersdale Ex-serviceman's Association and the Royal British Legion for their magnificent Guard of Honour. Heartfelt thanks to MLS Independent Funeral Directors, especially Lisa, who arranged everything so perfectly. Finally, thank you to The Cricketers and their lovely staff. Between you all you made everything more bearable for us.

HALL PETER

Barbara and family would like to thank relatives, friends, neighbours and work colleagues for their kindness, sympathy cards, messages of condolence and donations to Queenscourt Hospice received following their sad loss. Special thanks to Queenscourt Hospice and Formby District and Palliative Nurses.

BIRTHDAY MEMORIAMS

DOYLE CHRISTOPHER DENHAM

19th September 1956

Birthday memories of our Dad.
We miss you so much Dad.
On your birthday, what would we give, to clasp your hand, your happy face to see, to hear your voice and see your smile, that meant so much to we.
The rolling stream of life rolls on, but still the vacant chair, recalls the love, the voice, the smile of our Dad who once sat there.
Happy birthday Dad.
Love and miss you always.
Christopher, Raymond, Michael, Gary and all their families
xx

DOYLE CHRISTOPHER DENHAM

19th September 1956

A special Son
Sadly missed
Love you
Dad
x

DOYLE CHRISTOPHER DENHAM

19th September 1956

Birthday memories of my beautiful Husband.
Birthday gifts are being sent on the wings of the Angels, to where you went.
These gifts are of love and the things you cant buy, to celebrate your birthday spent up in the sky.
Happy Birthday Darling.
Love and miss you always.
Your broken hearted Wife
Joan
xx

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DEATHS

GEORGESON ALAN

19th September 2017

Sadly passed away after a short illness, aged 74 years young

Alan leaves behind his childhood sweetheart Kathleen after 56 years of blissful marriage. He will be missed so much by his Daughter Yvonne, his Son Alan and his seven Grandchildren and two Great Grandchildren.

"The world has lost an honest, hard working man who's enthusiasm and love for life remained with him to the very end."

The funeral service will take place at St Cuthbert's Church, Halsall on Thursday 28th September 2017 at 10.00am followed by cremation at West Lancashire Crematorium, Pippin Street, Burscough at 11.30am. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for Cancer Research UK. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Ormskirk, Skelmersdale & Scarisbrick. Tel 01695 722122/720012.

HUGHES BILL

14th September 2017 after a short illness

Aged 80 years

Beloved Husband of 52 years to Valerie, much loved Dad to Richard, Jillian and Graham, and loving Grandad to six Grandchildren. Funeral service on 28th September at 11:30am, at Christ Church, Parbold, followed by burial. No flowers. Donations please to Lupus UK or Salvation Army.

ROBERTS BRIAN

Sadly passed away 16th September after a short illness.

Loving Husband of Alice and precious Dad of Gerry,Kevin,Graham and Gaynor.Will also be sorely missed by Eight Grandchildren.

XXXXX

DEATHS

ROPER ALAN TREVOR

In the Royal Preston Hospital on 17th September 2017 aged 56 years

(Fomerly of Ormskirk)

Much loved Dad of Jason, Jennifer and Annabel. Dear Son of Rita and the late Ronald, loving Brother of Heather, twin of Sharon and Uncle of Nicola. Family flowers only please. All enquiries and donations if desired, for British Heart Foundation, may be sent c/o Alex Willis Funeral Home, 2 Middleton Road, Heysham, LA3 2QD. Tel: 01524 851595

SMITH FRED SUMNER

19th September 2017 Aged 82 years

Loving Husband of Olwen. Much loved Dad of Andrew and Julie, Father-In-Law to Mandy and cherished Grandad to Daniel and Jack. Fred will be greatly missed by all his family and friends. Service at Emmanuel Parish Church on Monday 2nd October at 11:00am followed by committal at Southport Crematorium. Family flowers only please, but if desired donations are being gratefully received for Cancer Research UK. Donations and enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

FABB KEN

22nd September 2017 Aged 88 years

Much loved Husband of Joy (Deceased) and Dad to Stephen. Ken will be greatly missed by his family, friends and all at Divine Days. Funeral service will take place at Southport Crematorium on Friday 6th October at 2:00pm. All enquiries to Hunters of Ormskirk 128B Burscough Street, Ormskirk, Tel: 01695 572997

DEATHS

MELLING STEPHEN

Peacefully at home on the 19th September 2017

Much loved husband of Myra, and a dear Father, Stepfather and Grandad. Stephen will be sadly missed by all. Funeral Service to be held at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough on Friday 29th September 2017 at 2.30pm. Family flowers only please but donations if desired to Queens Court Hospice c/o the funeral director. Enquiries to Neal Buckley, Tarleton Funeral Home, 49 Church Road, Tarleton, PR4 6UQ. Tel: 01772 301700

WOOD PAULINE

On 21st September 2017 Peacefully at Home Aged 59 years

Loving Daughter of the late Molly and Billy, much loved Sister of Mal, Geoff, Dave, Glen, Ter and the late Lily, Donald and Jimmy, a dearly loved Sister-In-Law and Aunty. 'Pauline will be sadly missed by Doreen and Roseanna and all her friends.' The family would like to take this opportunity to thank all the support staff for all their loving care and attention. Funeral service will take place at West Lancashire Crematorium on Friday 29th September at 10:00am. Family flowers only by request, donations if so desired for WWT Martin Mere. Donations and further enquiries please to M Rushton Funeral Directors 100 Marshside Road, Southport, PR9 9TG Tel: 01704 214118

NOBLE JOSEPHINE (Josey)

on 18th September 2017 Peacefully in Hospital after a short illness bravely borne aged 72 years

Loving Wife of Keith, much loved Mum, Step-Mum, Nan, Great-Nan, Sister and Auntie. Will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral service will take place at St. Helens Crematorium on Wednesday 4th October at 2.30pm. All enquiries to Margaret Whitelam Skelmersdale Funeral Service 29/31 Sandy Lane. Tel: 01695 559868

ANNIVERSARIES

BARBARA & JOE WYNN

Happy Golden Wedding Anniversary

Saturday 7th October

Lots of Love from Stephen, Dawn, Laura, Paul, Garry, Andy, Tamsyn, Jacob, Cerys, Shauna, Louise, Tim, Joe, Noah & Bailey xxx

IN MEMORIAM

PETER OWEN BERKLEY

29TH September 2014

I miss you every single minute,of every single day,the pain and hurt and feeling will never go away.

I wake up every morning and pray it's been a dream,then reality hits me P and then i know it's very real.

I will never get over losing you, no matter what they say and hurting just the same sweetheart as the day you went away.

Love you forever P

To the stars and back sweetheart until we meet again

Your broken hearted wife Marie

XXXX

BURKE EVELYN

26th September 4 years today

God knows he made the greatest Mam, from the day that you were born, but he gently took you by the hand, and left us here to mourn. He knows how much we miss you, and all the tears we've cried, our broken hearts went with you, the day you left our side. Miss you so much Mam, from all your loving family

xxx

IN MEMORIAM

WILLIAMS BERNARD

26th September 2015

2 years have gone since you passed away.
Love and miss you every day.
God be with you until we meet again.
From your loving partner Mary xxxx

WILDMAN MAUREEN

MBE and Imperial Service Medal

27th September 2015

Two years since you've gone.
Just to hear your voice and sit and talk.

You are still in our thoughts.

Loving Husband Billy and Brother-In-Law Roy

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01695 50853

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MAWDESLEY NORTH
- Hurst Green, New Street, Sycamore Close, Tarnbeck Drive

ORMSKIRK
- Charlesbye Avenue, Charlesbye Close, Dark Lane, Delph Top, Greetby Hill, Nursery Avenue, Pendle Drive, Quarry Mount

HILLDALE
- Beechfield, Chorley Road, Grimshaw Green Lane, Robin Lane, Springmount Drive

NEWBURGH
- Back Lane, Course Lane, New Acres, Sandy Close, Sandy Lane, Tears Lane

PARBOLD
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- Brandreth Delph, Brandreth Park, Croasdale Drive, Lancaster Lane, Miry Lane, Park Close, Stoney Lane, The Delph

DIGMOOR
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ASHURST
- Langtree, Lindens
- Hazel Lane, Maytree Walk, Nairn Avenue, Needham Way, Newburn Close, Newbury Road, Newby Drive, Newstead Drive, Newton Drive, Rowan Lane, Willow Walk, Woodley Park Road

BIRCH GREEN
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- Eastleigh, Elmers Green, Elmers Green Lane, Evington, Feltons Mews

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Closing date is Friday 6th October 2017, 5pm.
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Community Support Worker
£16,491 a year. **Ref: LANCS08980**

37 hours a week. West Lancs Adult Disability Day Services, Spencers Lane, Skelmersdale WN8 9JS. Required until 31 September 2019. Do you want to make a difference to the lives of people who have a disability? We are looking for enthusiastic, motivated, flexible people who would enjoy supporting adults with disabilities to live the lives they want The Service provides day time supports for people with learning disabilities in social, leisure, education and centre based activities. The support worker role involves all aspects of daily support, including supporting people to access activities and experiences in their local community, personal care, support with managing finance, administering medication and ensuring people's needs are met in terms of health and positive outcomes.
The successful applicant will value others and have a person centred approach supporting people with dignity and respect For further information and informal discussion please contact Susanne Carmichael on 07771 338 920.
Closing date: 6 October 2017.

Daytime Care Assistant
£16,303 a year. **Ref: LANCS08955**

20 hours a week. Mere Brook Day Time Support, Aughton Street, Ormskirk L39 3BH. Could you make a real and positive difference to the lives of Older People with Dementia? Are you Kind, warm reliable committed, have a passion to help others and a desire to provide high standard of care? Well look no further this job could be for you! You will provide person centre support to residents. This is a temporary position and you will be expected to work on the following days Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday - 12pm to 5pm. The service operates between the hours 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday. You will be expected to work bank holidays. You do not need to have experience to join our team and we welcome applications from all sections of the community. In addition to paying the 'living wage' pay, DBS application and training will be provided. Here are a few things we are looking for.
If you can answer yes to these questions we look forward to receiving your application.
If you want to know more about the role please contact Sarah Willmoth 01695 587417.
Closing date: 31 October 2017.

Some schools are excluded as commitment is on an individual basis.
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Essential skills required for the position include: excellent computer skills, must be numerate, excellent communication skills, ability to work alone or as part of a team, able to prioritize work efficiently, able to work under pressure, prepared to work to agreed programmes and deadlines for the production of drawings and prepared to take responsibility for their own work and ownership of the drawings produced.

The role will be office based with occasional visits to site to gain a better appreciation of interaction between drawings and implementation.

Working hours are Monday to Friday 09:00 – 17:30 (37.5 hrs per week).

Closing date: 11th October 2017

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10987	10848
15371	17863

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(LEES LANE, DALTON, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council have made an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.

1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over that length of Lees Lane, Dalton from its junction with Higher Lane, Dalton to its junction with Appley Lane South, Appley Bridge.

2. The prohibition will be operative daily from 0800 hours until 1700 hours on Monday 2nd October 2017 until Friday 6th October 2017 or until completion of the works within this period

3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via:- Higher Lane - A5209 Alder Lane - A5209 Parbold Hill - A5209 Sparrow Hill - A5209 Hall Lane - B5375 Appley Lane North - Appley Lane South and vice versa.

The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow drainage works to be carried out.

Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager
Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701

[Ref: HRiT/8643/SN]

Lancashire County Council

www.lancashire.gov.uk

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PROPOSAL
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, BURNLEY, FYLDE, HYNDBURN, PRESTON, ROSSENDALE, SOUTH RIBBLE AND WEST LANCS) (REVOCATIONS AND VARIOUS PARKING RESTRICTIONS (JULY/AUGUST NO1)) ORDER 201*

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council propose to make the above Traffic Regulation Order under Sections 1, 2 and 4 of and Part IV of Schedule 9 to the **Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to:
1. Revoke the following:
a. The "Lancashire County Council (Burnley Area) (On Street Parking Places, Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting) Consolidation Order 2009" insofar as it relates to;
i. Items (2)a), (2)b), (4)a), (4)b), (6), (7)a), (7)b), (8), (9) and (10) of Schedule 11.035;
ii. Item (1) of Schedule 12.061.
b. The "Lancashire County Council (Fylde Area) (On Street Parking Places, Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting) Consolidation Order 2009" insofar as it relates to;
i. Item (1) of Schedule 11.083;
ii. Item (1) of Schedule 12.072.
c. The "Lancashire County Council (Preston Area) (On Street Parking Places, Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting) Consolidation Order 2009" insofar as it relates to item (60) of Schedule 10.01.
d. The "Lancashire County Council (South Ribble Area) (On Street Parking Places, Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting) Consolidation Order 2009" insofar as it relates to;
i. Items (165)a) and (165)b) of Schedule 10.01;
ii. Item (5) of Schedule 10.03.
e. The "Lancashire County Council (Woodlands Road, Ansdell, Fylde Borough) (Part Revocation and Restriction of Waiting) Order 2011" insofar as it relates to item c) of Schedule 3.
f. The "Lancashire County Council (Sharoe Green Lane Area, Fulwood, Preston City) (One Way Traffic, Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting, Prohibition of Loading/Unloading, and Part Revocation) Order 2012" insofar as it relates to the whole of Schedule 5.
2. Introduce a prohibition of waiting in the following lengths of road:
a. Bury Road, Haslingden, the east side, from the centreline of Manchester Road for a distance of 18 metres in a northerly direction;
b. Bury Road, Haslingden, the west side, from the centreline of Manchester Road for a distance of 30 metres in a northerly direction;
c. Clifton Drive North, Lytham St Annes, the north-east side, from a point 158 metres north-west of the centreline of St George's Road for a distance of 6 metres in a north-westerly direction;
d. Clifton Drive South, Lytham St Annes, the north side, from a point 44 metres west of the centreline of Queen's Road for a distance of 26 metres in an easterly direction;
e. Clifton Drive South, Lytham St Annes, the south side, from a point 8 metres east of the centreline of Lightburne Avenue for a distance of 44 metres in an easterly direction;
f. Clifton Drive South, Lytham St Annes, the south side, from the centre line of Lightburne Avenue for a distance of 20.5 meters in a westerly direction;
g. Egerton Road, Preston, both sides, from the centreline of Tulketh Road for a distance of 25 metres in a south-westerly direction;
h. Hartley Street, Great Harwood, both sides, from a point 28 metres north of the centreline of Windsor Road for a distance of 44 metres in a northerly direction;
i. Harwood Lane, Great Harwood, the north side, from the centreline of the A680 Whalley Road for a distance of 84 metres in a south westerly direction;
j. Harwood Lane, Great Harwood, the south side, from the centreline of the A680 Whalley Road for a distance of 60 metres in a south westerly direction;
k. Lightburne Avenue, Lytham St Annes, both sides, from the centreline of Clifton Drive South for a distance of 21 meters in a southerly direction;
l. Market Way, Ormskirk, both sides, from the centreline of Moorgate for its entire length extending onto the northerly private land;
m. Northcote Street, Leyland, both sides, from a point 10.5 metres north east from the centreline of Hough Lane for a distance of 18 metres in a north-easterly direction;
n. Queensway, Penwortham, the west side, from the centreline of Liverpool Road, A59 to the centreline of Highgate;
o. Queensway, Penwortham, the east side, from the centreline of Liverpool Road, A59 for a distance of 32 metres in a northerly direction;
p. St Davids Road South, Lytham St Annes, the south-west side, from the centreline of Hove Road for a distance of 15 metres in a south-easterly direction;
q. Summerwood Lane, Halsall, the south side, from a point 47.5 metres east of the centreline of the A5147 Halsall Road, for a distance of 37 metres in an easterly direction;
r. Tulketh Road, Preston, the south-west side, from the centreline of Powis Road to a point 6 metres north-west of the centreline of Wellington Road;
s. Whalley Road, Great Harwood, the western side, from a point 15 metres south of the centreline of Harwood Lane for a distance of 30 metres in a northerly direction;
t. Whitebirk Drive U48115, Rishton, both sides, from the centreline of the A6119 Whitebirk Drive in a south-westerly direction and then a southerly direction to the district boundary with Blackburn & Darwen, an approximate distance of 185 metres;
u. Whitebirk Drive U48115, Rishton, the east side, from its junction with the unclassified Whitebirk Drive U48115 northern spur, on the eastern side for a distance of 60 metres in a northerly direction;
v. Whitebirk Drive U48115, Rishton, the west side, from its junction with the unclassified Whitebirk Drive U48115 northern spur, on the western side for a distance of 75 metres in a northerly direction;
w. Woodlands Road, Lytham St Annes, the west side, from the centreline of Seymour Road for a distance of 7 metres in a north-easterly direction.
3. Introduce a restriction of waiting between 8am and 6.30pm in the following lengths of road:
a. Brush Street, Burnley, the east side, from the centreline of Accrington Road for a distance of 15 metres in a southerly direction;
b. Brush Street, Burnley, the east side; from the centreline of Villiers Street for a distance of 38 metres in a northerly direction;
c. Brush Street, Burnley, the west side, from the centreline of Accrington Road for a distance of 24 metres in a southerly direction;
d. Hartley Street, Burnley, the east side, from the centreline of Accrington Road for a distance of 24 metres in a southerly direction;
e. Hartley Street, Burnley, the west side, from the centreline of Accrington road for a distance of 15 metres in a southerly direction;
f. Hartley Street, Burnley, the west side, from the centreline of Villiers Street for a distance of 38 metres in a northerly direction.
4. Introduce limited waiting for 1 hour, with no return within 1 hour, Monday to Saturday between 8am and 6pm in the following lengths of road:
a. Woodlands Road, Lytham St Annes, the east side, from a point 10.5 metres north-east of the centreline of Seymour Road for a distance of 28.5 metres in a north-easterly direction;
b. Woodlands Road, Lytham St Annes, the west side, from a point 7 metres north-east of the centreline of Seymour Road for a distance of 34 metres in a north-easterly direction.
5. Introduce limited waiting for 2 hours with no return within 2 hours, Monday to Friday between 10am and 5pm in the following lengths of road:
a. Aysgarth Avenue, Fulwood, the north side, from a point 23 metres west of the centreline of Broadwood Drive for a distance of 45 metres in a westerly direction;
b. Aysgarth Avenue, Fulwood, the west side, from a point 23 metres south of Heversham Avenue, for a distance of 28 metres in a southerly direction;
c. Broadwood Drive, Fulwood, the west side, from a point 19 metres north west of the centreline of Hellifield, for a distance of 60 metres in a north westerly direction;
d. Brooklands Avenue, Fulwood, the west side, from a point 63 metres north of the centreline of Sharoe Green Lane to its junction with South Drive;
e. Clanfield, Fulwood, the east side, from a point 104 metres north of the centreline of Sharoe Green Lane, for a distance of 95 metres in a northerly direction ;
f. Clanfield, Fulwood, the south side, from a point 340 metres north, then east of the centreline of Sharoe Green Lane, for a distance of 12 metres in an easterly direction;
g. Clanfield, Fulwood, the west side, from a point 226 metres north of the centreline of Sharoe Green Lane, for a distance of 72 metres in a northerly direction;
h. Goodwood Avenue, Fulwood, the east side, from a point 129 metres south of the centreline of Hellifield to a point 22 metres north of the centreline of Heversham Avenue;
i. Goodwood Avenue, Fulwood, the west side, from a point 21 metres south of the centreline of Hellifield, for a distance of 13 metres in a southerly direction;
j. Goodwood Avenue, Fulwood, the west side, from a point 52 metres south of the centreline of Hellifield for a distance of 36 metres in a southerly direction;
k. Hellifield, Fulwood, the north side, from a point 23 metres east of the centreline of Polefield, for a distance of 54 metres in an easterly direction;
l. Hellifield, Fulwood, the north side, from a point 27 metres east of the centreline of Oakfield, for a distance of 37 metres in an easterly direction;
m. Hellifield, Fulwood, the south side, from a point 37 metres east of the centreline of Goodwood Avenue, for a distance of 21 metres in an easterly direction;
n. Heversham Avenue, Fulwood, the north side, from a point 60 metres east of the centreline of Goodwood Avenue, for a distance of 63 metres in an easterly direction;
o. Heversham Avenue, Fulwood, the south side, from a point 23 metres east of the centreline of Clanfield, for a distance of 27 metres in an easterly direction;
p. Heversham Avenue, Fulwood, the south side, from a point 98 metres east of the centreline of Clanfield, for a distance of 78 metres in an easterly direction;
q. Polefield, Fulwood, the east side, from a point 54 metres north of the centreline of Heversham Avenue, for a distance of 26 metres in a northerly direction;
r. Polefield, Fulwood, the east side, from a point 18 metres north of the centreline of Sandwick Close, for a distance of 32 metres in a northerly direction;
s. Polefield, Fulwood, the east side, from a point 123 metres north of the centreline of Hellifield, for a distance of 28 metres in a northerly direction;
t. Polefield, Fulwood, the west side, from a point 186 metres north of the centreline of Heversham Avenue, for a distance of 70 metres in a northerly direction;
u. South Drive, Fulwood, the west side, from its junction with Brooklands Avenue for a distance of 107 metres in a northerly direction;
v. Tinkerfield, Fulwood, the east side, from a point 22 metres north of the centreline of Hellfield, for a distance of 50 metres in a northerly direction;
w. Tinkerfield, Fulwood, the west side, from a point 92 metres north of the centreline of Hellifield, for a distance of 60 metres in a northerly direction.
6. Introduce a prohibition of loading/unloading in the following lengths of road:
a. Garden Street, Preston, both sides, from the centreline of Winckley Square to the centreline of Mount Street;
b. Wood Street, Lytham St Annes, the east side, from the centreline of Clifton Drive South for a distance of 61.5 meters in a north-easterly direction.

A copy of the draft Order and associated documents for proposing to make the Order may be inspected during normal office hours at the offices of Burnley Borough Council, Town Hall, Manchester Road, Burnley, BB11 9SA, and at the office of Fylde Borough Council, Town Hall, Lytham St Annes, FY8 1LW, and at the office of Hyndburn Borough Council, Scaitcliffe House, Ormerod Street, Accrington, BB5 0PF, and at the offices of Preston City Council, PO Box 10, Town Hall, Lancaster Road, Preston, PR1 2RL, and at the offices of Rossendale Borough Council - One Stop Shop, The Business Centre, Futures Park, Newchurch Road, Bacup, OL13 0BB, and at the offices of, South Ribble Borough Council, Civic Centre, West Paddock, Leyland, PR25 1DH, and at the offices of, West Lancashire Borough Council, PO Box 16, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, L39 2DF, and at the offices of The Director of Governance Finance & Public Services, Lancashire County Council, Christ Church Precinct, County Hall, Preston PR1 8XJ, and on Lancashire County Councils Website http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/roads/roadworks-and-traffic-regulation-orders/permanent.aspx. Any representations or objections (specifying the grounds on which they are made) relating to the proposal must be made in writing and should be sent to The Director of Governance, Finance & Public Services, Lancashire County Council, P O Box 78, County Hall, Preston PR1 8XJ or by e-mail to tro-consultation@lancashire.gov.uk **quoting ref:LSG4\894.4965\AFR** before the 27 October 2017.

Ian Young, Director of Governance, Finance and Public Services
27 September 2017

Lancashire County Council

www.lancashire.gov.uk

West Lancashire Borough Council
Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Article 15

APPLICATION(S) FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

Application No: 2017/0922/FUL Renovation and extensions to existing dwellinghouse, including raising the height of the roof and alterations to external appearance at Tanpit Farm Cottage, Broad Lane, Downholland. The proposed development affects a right of way to which Part III of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 applies.
Application No: 2017/0923/FUL Change of use from agricultural building used for storage to be ancillary residential building at Building Adjacent To Tanpit Farm Cottage, Broad Lane, Downholland.
The proposed development affects a right of way to which Part III of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 applies.

APPLICATION(S) AFFECTING A CONSERVATION AREA / LISTED BUILDING

Application No: 2017/0789/FUL Conversion of Barn 2 to detached dwelling at 61 Becconsall Lane, Hesketh Bank.
Application No: 2017/0860/FUL Rebuild derelict structure in rear garden (retrospective) at 10 Ashfield Terrace, Appley Bridge.
Application No: 2017/0907/OUT Outline - Erection of 8no. dwellings following demolition of existing public house, including details of access and layout at Martin Inn, Martin Lane, Burscough.
Application No: 2017/0931/COU Change of use from residential to office accommodation at 9A Holly Lane, Rufford.
Application No: 2017/0946/FUL Proposed detached garage following demolition of timber sheds at Pear Tree Cottage, Flash Lane, Rufford.
The applications are available for viewing on the Council's website www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning. Alternatively, the application can be viewed during normal office hours at 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk and at 1st Floor, The Concourse, Skelmersdale. If you wish to comment on the proposal you can do so via the Council's web site, by e.mail to plan.apps@westlancs.gov.uk or in writing to Development and Regeneration Services, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, but these must be received within 21 days of the date of this notice quoting the application no. Any comments made will be available for public inspection.
Applications for Minor Commercial and Householder Development
In the event that an appeal is made against a decision of the Council to refuse to grant planning permission for the proposed development, and that appeal then proceeds by way of the expedited procedure under the written representations procedure, any representations made to the Council about an application will be passed to the Secretary of State and there will be no opportunity to make further representations.

John R Harrison DipEnvP., MRTPI Director of Development and Regeneration
Dated: 27th September 2017
PDNOT966

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Mr Peter Gummerson trading as UKI Express Transport Limited of Degrave House, Whitemoss Business Park, Skelmersdale WN8 9TG OC1055705 is applying to change an existing licence as follows: Increasing the licence to 10 Motor Vehicles & 15 Trailers. He also would like to add a new operating centre in which the vehicles will operate from; the new operating centre UKI Express Transport Limited, M58 Distribution Centre, Gillibrands Road, Skelmersdale WN8 9TB. Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

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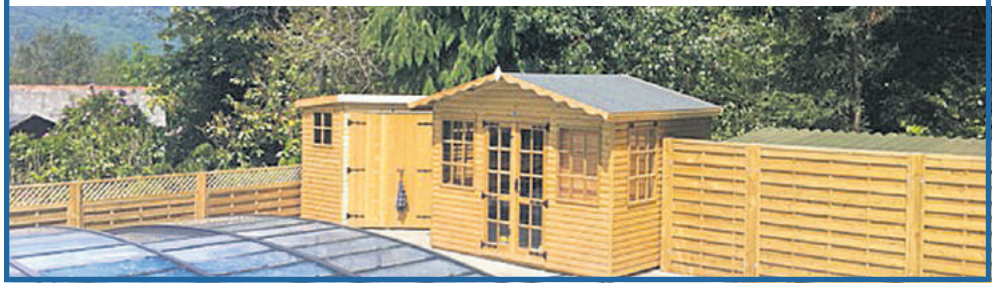

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Groans from those who grew up with fragile Alfas

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THAT distant noise you can hear is the sound of Alfa Romeo's Giulia depreciating in value. Or perhaps it's the sound of interior trim creaking uncomfortably during repeated use.

Or – and I reckon this is a tad more accurate – it's the gentle groan of people who've grown up with Alfas of the past expecting the new arrival to be just as fragile. I can see where they're coming from - I drove a 1990s GTV6 last year and spent the entire outing wondering what would've happened had Milan put as much effort into its interior as it did its V6s. But I didn't care how squeaky the trim was, because the three litres of chrome-garnished opera up front sounded utterly enchanting.

Whereas the engine in the Giulia I tried didn't. I'm aware that you can order Italy's latest 3-Series basher with a twin-turbo, 503bhp monster of a V6 but the version most people are likely to be punting up an outside lane near you is the 2.2-litre turbodiesel, which below 3000rpm isn't quite as refined as its Audi or BMW equivalents. But put your foot down and the clatter's quickly replaced by impressive mid-range shove. In 188bhp form it's an impressively brisk, if not lightning quick, motorway companion.

It's also the first Alfa saloon in a quarter of a century to send its oomph to the rear wheels – the *right* wheels, if you want to enjoy driving a big saloon – and the end result's a car that really lets you revel in its delicately set-up steering and suspension on the right road. It does an accomplished job of devouring A-roads, but the 3-Series is a tiny bit better.

Which is where the Giulia does a fine job of messing up my own verdict – because the BMW is a tiny bit better not just at cornering, but at virtually everything.

The Alfa has B-pillars so vast that they make checking your blind spots very hard work, anyone hopping into the rear seats inevitably smacks their scalp on the low roofline, and the German offering is more likely to hold onto its value.

But I've never walked away from a 3-Series and given it a lingering second glance, which you do with the Giulia because it is an achingly pretty car. Just like the old 156 and 159 were.

The BMW's clearly the better car in the same way that Birmingham's a perfectly sensible place to live.

But given the choice, I'd have a cottage in the Lake District any day – and a Giulia parked outside, naturally.

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2012 (62) **FORD FOCUS ST3 2.0 TURBO 5DR,** spirit blue, leather, 1 owner, low mileage £12,995
2014 (14) **NISSAN QASHQAI 1.2 ACENTA,** metallic bronze, 15,000 miles only. £11,995
2014 (14) **HYUNDAI IX 35 1.6 SE PETROL,** metallic grey, 12,000 miles only. £11,795
2014 (14) **VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.4 SE,** metallic deep espresso, grey leather, 4,000 miles only. . £11,495
2014 (14) **MINI COOPER 1.6 CONVERTIBLE,** red, bonnet stripes, alloys, air con, 18,000 miles. £10,495
2014 (64) **PEUGEOT 3008 1.6 HDI ACTIVE,** alloys, air con, park sensors, 21,000 miles, white.. £9,695
2014 (14) **MITSUBISHI ASX 2, 1.6 5DR,** metallic red, air con, alloys, 17,000 miles only. £9,195
2014 (14) **VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 ELITE 5DR,** silver lake, black leather, low mileage £8,495
2014 (14) **HONDA JAZZ 1.4 ES PLUS,** urban titanium, alloys, air con, 15,000 miles only. £7,995
2014 (14) **VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.4 SE,** panoramic roof, air con, pepper dust, 10,000 miles. £7,995
2014 (14) **SUZUKI SWIFT 1.2 SZ4,** metallic blue, 10,000 miles only. £7,750
2007 (07) **PEUGEOT 107 1.0 URBAN 5DR,** silver, 18,000 miles only. £2,495
2014 (14) **CITROEN C4 PICASSO 1.6 VTR+ AIRDREAM DIESEL,** low mileage, red ..... SOLD
2014 (14) **FORD FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC 5DR,** alloys, air con, heated windscreen, 6,000 miles ..... DUE
2014 (14) **PEUGEOT 2008 1.2 ACTIVE AUTOMATIC,** white, parking sensors, 25,000 miles only... DUE

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2012 (12) **RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 DYNAMIQUE TOMTOM VVT 2DR,** white, 85k, convertible, full service history, sat nav, alloys, air con £5,495
2013 (13) **ALFA ROMEO MITO 1.2 JTDM-2 SPRINT 3DR,** red, 58k, FSH, free road tax, alloys, air con, cruise control, Bluetooth £4,995
2005 (05) **BMW X5 3.0 D SE 5DR AUTOMATIC,** grey, 144k, full service history, full black leather, alloys, climate control, CD £4,995
2009 (08) **AUDI A4 2.0 AVANT TDI SE DPF 5DR,** silver, 121k, FSH, great spec, Audi concert, dual climate, alloys, new shape £4,995
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2010 (10) **VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.7 DESIGN CDTI ECOFLEX 5DR,** black, 98k, full service history, half leather, air con, great spec, 1 owner £3,695
2011 (11) **VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 EXCLUSIV AC 5DR,** silver, 62k, one owner, service history, air con, remote locking, low insurance, CD £3,695
2007 (57) **NISSAN QASHQAI 2.0 TEKNA 5DR,** beige, 102k, excellent example, great spec, panoramic roof, heated leather, Bluetooth, FSH, alloys £3,495
2007 (57) **VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 DESIGN 16V 3DR,** blue, low mileage 25k, service history, alloys, half leather, air con, remote locking £2,995
2005 (05) **JAGUAR S-TYPE 2.7 V6 SE 4DR,** blue, 112k, alloys, climate control, full service history, CD, 2 keys, beautiful condition £2,995
2009 (58) **FORD C-MAX 2.0 ZETEC 5DR AUTO,** blue, 54k, remote locking, air con, tow bar, part leather, cat D, Sony CD £2,995
2010 (60) **CITROEN C3 1.4 VTR PLUS HDI 5DR,** grey, 111k, new shape, ultra economical, £30 road tax, panoramic roof, alloys, A/C, cruise £2,995
2005 (05) **MINI CONVERTIBLE 1.6 ONE 2DR,** red, 77k full service history, lovely condition, electric roof £2,995
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2009 (59) **SKODA FABIA 1.4 LEVEL 1 TDI 5DR,** maroon, 95k, full service history, remote locking, CD, only £30 road tax £2,995
2007 (57) **PEUGEOT 207 1.4 SW S 5DR,** silver, 61k, recent service, panoramic roof, drives great, low running costs £2,495
2005 (05) **VOLKSWAGEN TOURAN 1.9 SE TDI 7 STR 5DR,** silver, 127k, 7 seater MPV, full service history, nice spec, alloys, CD £2,495
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2002 (02) **LEXUS IS 2.0 200 SE 4DR,** silver, 128k, drives superb, great spec, sunroof, heated electric seats, A/C, part service history £1,695
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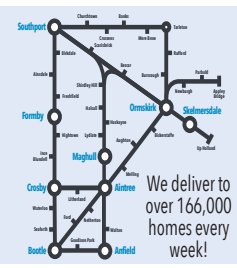

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14 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR, met silver, PAS, E/W, C/L, A/C, sat nav, 1200cc, 6,700 miles only £5,995
13 VW GOLF 1.6 TDI SE 5DR, met black, PAS, E/W, C/L, ABS, A/C, alloys, 29,000 miles only, alloys, A/C, ABS £8,995
62 TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVTI 5DR, 1329cc, PAS, E/W, C/L, media, 16,000 miles, A/C, ABS, low insurance £5,995
62 AUDI A1 SE 5DR 1.6 TDI, met black, PAS, E/W, C/L, A/C, ABS, alloys, 33,000 miles £8,995
13 CITROEN DS3+ 1.6, white/purple roof, PAS, E/W, C/L, A/C, alloys, 1 owner, 22,000 miles only £6,395
13 VW PASSAT SE TDI DIESEL, met black, 80,000 miles £7,495
12 VAUXHALL MERIVA 1400cc PETROL, new shape, met blue, PAS, E/W, C/L, A/C, ABS, 58,000 miles £3,995
07 MINI COOPER 1.6 S SPD, in black, PAS, E/W, central locking, ABS, alloys, lots of history, 78k £2,995
08 MERCEDES A CLASS 180 CDI DIESEL 5DR, met grey, PAS, E/W, C/L, 65,000 miles, service history £2,495
08 FIAT GRAND PUNTO 1.4 5DR, met black, PAS, E/W, C/L, ABS, alloys, 64,000 miles, full history £1,995

CONVERTIBLES

56 VW BEETLE 1.4 LUNA, met blue, biege hood, PAS, E/W, C/L, ABS, CD, alloys, 79,000 miles £2,395
52 SAAB 9-3 LPT, met silver, full black leather, PAS, E/W, electric hood, ABS, A/C, alloys, 82,000 miles, lady owned £2,295
07 BMW Z4 METALLIC SILVER, leather trim, e/roof, E/W, c/locking, A/C, ABS, alloys, service history, 65,0000 miles £5,495
07 RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE S 2.0i AUTO, met grey, leather trim, pas, E/W c/locking, alloys, 41,000, service history £2,195
07 FORD FOCUS 1.8 ZETEC 3DR, met blue, PAS, E/W, C/L, ABS, A/C, alloys, high miles £1,495
56 SAAB 9-3 VECTOR 1.9 TDI, met blue, half leather, PAS, E/W, C/L, A/C, alloys, 100,000 miles, service history £1,695
56 CHEVROLET TACUMA SX 1600cc MPV, 5spd, met blue, PAS, E/W, C/L, ABS, 76,000 miles £1,395
56 VAUXHALL COMBO VAN 1700 DIESEL, white, PAS, A/C, C/L, CD, 6spd, very clean £1,595
55 RENAULT CLIO CAMPUS SPORT 3DR, 1200cc, met black, PAS, E/W, C/L, ABS, A/C, alloys, CD £1,295
05 VAUXHALL CORSA SXI 3DR DIESEL 1300cc, met blue, PAS, E/W, C/L, CD, alloys, 5spd £1,395
53 ROVER 75 CLASSIC SE 1800cc 5spd petrol, met gold, PAS, E/W, C/L, ABS, A/C, 64,000 miles £1,495
00 P MERCEDES SLK 230 K AUTO, met blue, PAS, E/W, C/L, ABS, electric folding hard top, leather, alloys, 60,000 miles £2,695
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Kangoo given sophisticated new six-point clutch system

RENAULT'S Kangoo van is being offered for the first time with a sophisticated dual clutch system. The six-speed electronically-operated system will be offered with the Dci90 and Dci110 models, with prices starting at £21,805. The system, which is already offered on many of Renault's car models, is available to order from now on.

New Subaru Forester off-roader with six gadgets to go on sale next month

SUBARU is now fitting a sophisticated safety system that brings together six different gadgets to its Forester off-roader.

The EyeSight technology brings together Adaptive Cruise Control, Pre-Collision Braking, Pre-Collision Throttle Management, Lane Departure and Sway Warning, Lane Keep Assist and Lead Vehicle Start Alert.

It's now being fitted as standard to the XE Lineartronic and XE Premium Lineartronic versions of the Forester - and prices start at £28,995.

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04	**FORD** FIESTA 5DR, light blue	£1295
03	**VW** POLO 1.2S 3DR, blue	£1295
55	**SUZUKI** ALTO 1.1 5DR, blue, 70,000 miles	£1295
04	**FORD** STREET KA CABRIOLET 2DR, blue, leather	£1295
07	**RENAULT** CLIO CAMPUS 1.1 3DR, black	£1250
55	**FORD** KA 1.3 3DR, red 56,000 miles	£1250
04	**RENAULT** CLIO 1.4 DYNAMIQUE 3DR, black	£1150
52	**FORD** KA, silver, only 44,000 miles, silver, full MoT	£995
P	**BMW** 318SE SALOON 4DR, blue	£995
51	**RENAULT** CLIO 1.2 3DR, burgundy	£995
55	**FIAT** PUNTO 1.2 5DR, black	£995
52	**FORD** KA, in silver, full mot, complete new clutch, only 42,000 miles	£995
04	**VAUXHALL** CORSA LIFE 1.2, in silver, 61,000 miles	£995
P	**VAUXHALL** ASTRA 1.6 PREMIER 5DR, red	£695
51	**FORD** FIESTA 1.2 3DR, red	£695
W	**RENAULT** CLIO 1.2 3DR, blue	£595

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59	**FIESTA** 1.6 TITANIUM, black, 2 owners, FSH	£3995
08	**MAZDA** 5 SPORT DIESEL, 6spd red metallic, 7 seats, 2 owners, FSH	£3650
54	**SUZUKI** JIMNY PETROL 3DR	£3495
07	**JAGUAR** 2.7 TWIN TURBO S TYPE, saloon, auto, silver, leather	£3395
58	**MINI** ONE 1.4, in silver/gold, full leather, Chilli pack	£3295
59	**ALFA ROMEO** MITO LUSSO 3-dr, black metallic, 61k	£3295
11	**CITROEN** C1 1.0, in red, 25,000 miles	£3250
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04	**TOYOTA** RAV 4 XTS, blue, manual, alloys, sunroof	£2495
58	**VAUXHALL** CORSA LIFE 1.2, in black, 58,000 miles	£2250
55	**VOLVO** V50 DIESEL ESTATE, grey metallic, full leather	£1995
02	**AUDI** TT COUPE, 225bhp, manual, silver	£1995
56	**CITROEN** C1 1.0 VIBE, black, 48,000 miles	£1995
56	**PEUGEOT** 107 1.0, black	£1995
56	**FIAT** SEDICi 4WD DIESEL 5DR, silver	£1995
53	**NISSAN** X TRAIL DIESEL 5DR, silver	£1795
54	**VW** SHARAN SE TDI DIESEL 5DR, grey, 7 seater	£1795
55	**FORD** FOCUS 1.6 DIESEL 5DR, manual, in light blue metallic	£1595
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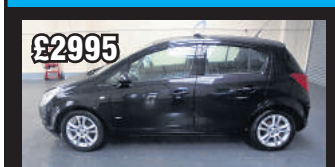

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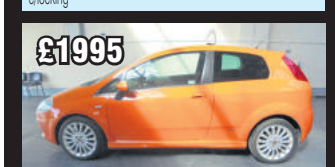

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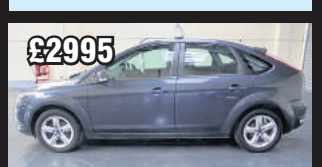

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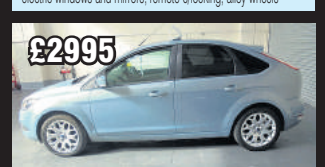

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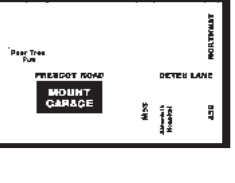

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Powell takes over as Skem manager

Report by **Neil Leatherbarrow**

AFTER Alan Rogers stood down from the Skelmersdale United managerial position last week, it was announced late on Sunday that David Powell will take over at the struggling Evo-Stik Division One North club.

A statement on the Skelmersdale United FC website said Rogers had left due to the increased commitments placed upon him with his Football League club duties and new duties for the FA.

The article further said: "He (Rogers) felt he could no longer give his full attention to Skelmersdale United and that it would not be fair to the club and supporters."

Rogers had taken over at Stormy Corner in January and despite bringing in some good young players and playing some highly entertaining football the club were relegated.

This summer Rogers made a number of higher profile experienced signings, including a number who are reportedly on contract and hopes were high for a good season.

However, after a decent start Skelmersdale have lost every game they have played during September.

Locally-based Powell is an experienced manager at Skelmersdale's level, having held the position at Prescot Cables and Burscough as well as a period as manager of Ashton Athletic. He was also among the coaching team at Warrington Town when they knocked Exeter City out of the FA Cup in the celebrated live televised match.

Powell, who has UEFA coaching qualifications, will bring a wealth of contacts within the game and it is understood he is already acquiring some new faces for the squad.

The new boss begins his reign with a trip to East Yorkshire where Skelmersdale take on Goole AFC who are bottom of the table two points behind third from bottom Skelmersdale, so it is a crucial game, followed by a home game against Kendal Town on Tuesday, October 3. David will get an opportunity to play a former club in the near future as Skelmersdale have been drawn at home to Burscough in the Liverpool Senior Cup on a date to be confirmed but likely to be during late October.

David Powell

On the pitch, Scarborough proved too strong for Skem last Saturday putting four goals past them with just a consolation effort from a late Remy Howarth goal - arguably the best of the game.

Skelmersdale didn't play that badly, they were just beaten by a stronger and better side on the day.

Burscough hit six!

Burscough 6 Armthorpe 0

IT'S been coming for weeks... the words of Burscough manager Dave Sutton after his side had well and truly knocked South Yorkshire based Armthorpe Welfare for six in the FA Vase to secure a place in the 2nd Qualifying Round draw.

The Linnets were on fire in front of goal. Strikes in 21 & 27 minutes put them on their way, then four goals in the last 20 minutes wiped away any doubts that may have lingered. In truth it could have been more.

Burscough took the lead through Peter Henerty and then six minutes later it was 2-0 through Healey.

Burscough were good value for their interval lead and away keeper Stevens was to be a busy man again in the second-half as Burscough pressed for a crucial third goal which came in the 71st minute from Henerty.

On 73 minutes Parkes scored the best goal of the game to make it 4-0 when he went past two defenders, around another and on approaching the 18 yard box curled a sublime right-foot shot inside the post for a classic goal.

In the 79th minute Henerty sent in Healey to make it five before Adam Gilchrist made it 6-0 to Burscough.

Dave Sutton said after the match: "Someone was going to get this hammering. We have threatened it for weeks. I think we might have turned a corner, I sincerely hope so."

In the Buildbase FA Vase Burscough have been given a difficult draw away to Dunston UTS on Saturday, October 21. Burscough are at home to Irlam Town on Saturday, 3pm kick-off.

Report by NEIL LEATHERBARROW

Liverpool & District Cricket Competition review

THE 2017 Liverpool & District Cricket Competition ended a couple of weeks ago, so it's now time to reflect on some of our local player's league statistics during the last six months, starting this week with a look at our Premier Division teams.

Ormskirk were crowned Champions and leading the way with the bat were Michael Jones with 748 runs at an average of 41.56 inc 7x50 and HS of 93, Josh Bohannon with 678 @ 52.15 inc 1 x 100 & 4 x 50 with HS 130*, Andy Baybutt 639 @ 35.50 inc 1 x 100 & 2 x 50 with HS 116, Gary Knight 436 @ 62.29 inc 4 x 50 with HS 68* and George Lavelle 425 @ 60.71 inc 4 x 50 with HS 86, Simon Kerrigan led the way with the ball with 39 wickets at an average of 14.46 with best of 6-34, Scott Lees took 38 @ 18.79 best of 5-27, Bohannon 31 @ 14.26 best of 5-21 and Nick Caunce 31 @ 18.58 best of 4-28, in the field Jones took 12 catches, Nick Caunce 10, Bohannon and Knight 8 each, whilst Lavelle took 15 victims behind the stumps.

Bootle finished runners up and leading batsmen were Vishal Tripathi with 553 @ 32.59 inc 4 x 50 with HS 98, Danny Davies 505 @ 42.08 inc 2 x 50 HS 75*, Jackson Knight 474 @ 26.33 inc 5 x 50 with HS 97, Michael Farrell 374 @ 19.68 inc 1 x 50 with HS 79* and Luke Procter who only had six innings was out just once, scored 324 runs @ 324 inc 3 x 50 with a HS 75*,Will Purser led the way with the ball with 43 wickets @ 13.37 best of 7-9, Chris Liptrot took 41 @ 17.27 best of 6-51, Chris Stenhouse 25 @ 17.96 best 5-48 and Scott Butterworth 23 @ 19.78 best of 6-29, in the field Butterworth also took 11 catches and Craig Prince 9, whilst Neil Williams took 33 victims behind the stumps.

Northern finished in fifth place and leading the way with the bat were Chris Laker 757 runs @ 41.56 inc 1 x 100 & 5 x 50 with HS 118*, Liam Grey 463 @ 28.94 inc 4 x 50 with 99 and James Cole 381 @ 29.31 inc 2 x 50 with HS 61, Tom Sephton led the way with the ball with 69 wickets @ 15.32 best of 8-53, Grey took 35 @ 15.94 best of 6-31 and Justin Snow 23 @ 19.52 best of 3-27, in the field Laker took 12 catches, Snow 10 and Grey 9, whilst J Cole took 18 victims behind the stumps.

Formby finished one place above relegation in tenth place and leading the way with the bat were Daniel Stanley 569 runs @ 29.95 inc 3 x 50 with HS 77 and Sam Oldham 554 @ 32.59 inc 1 x 100 & 5 x 50 with HS 103*, Gary Keedy led the way with the ball with 63 wickets @ 12.51 best of 7-10, whilst Ben Aitchison took 25 @ 26.52 best of 3-25, in the field Aitchison took 7 catches and James Seward took 33 victims behind the stumps.

Southport & Birkdale were relegated in eleventh place and leading the way with the bat were Chris Brownlow 575 runs @ 27.38 inc 6 x 50 with HS 74, Brad Yates 524 @ 24.95 inc 1 x 100 & 3 x 50 with HS 100, Adam Phillips 500 @ 23.81 inc 1 x 100 & 2 x 50 with HS 110 and Tearon Gleeson 325 @ 20.31 inc 1 x 50 with HS 50, Chris Firth led the way with the ball with 47 wickets @ 18.64 best of 7-14, whilst Chris Cunningham took 27 @ 28.96 best of 3-42, in the field Chris Brownlow took 15 catches and Nick Knight 10, whilst Brad Yates took 29 victims behind the wickets including 8 stumpings.

Ainsdale finished bottom and were also relegated, but they did have the top flights leading run scorer in Faiz Fazal who scored 1036 runs @ 57.56 inc 5 x 100 & 3x 50 with HS 135*, whilst Mark Lucas weighed in with 367 @ 17.48 with HS 54 and skipper Andy Barlow 346 @ 19.22 with HS 76*, Martyn Farrell led the way with the ball with 26 wickets @ 38.69 best of 5-42, whilst Mal Swift took 24 @ 30 best of 4-41, in the field Swift took 11 catches and Tom Wainwright took 11 victims behind the stumps.

Now to the most ducks list that nobody likes to top, Michael Farrell 7, Martyn Farrell 6, whilst James Seward, Brad Yates & Nick Knight all had 5 apiece.

● ***Next week we take a look at the First and Second Division statistics of our local clubs.***

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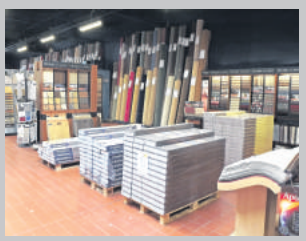

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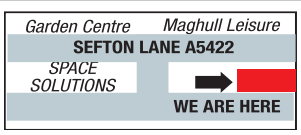

Carpets and Flooring

The floors of your home are the base of everything in it. They are in a very special way, a pallet on which you can mix and match the colours and textures of everything in each room. Change the flooring and you change the whole character of your living accommodation.

Floors however, serve a number of purposes other than something firm on which to stand. They can be insulation against cold or noise. They can add warmth. In some rooms such as the kitchen or bathroom they should provide a waterproof, easily washed and dried surface. If the floor is also warm to the touch, it will also prevent condensation.

The variety of flooring materials available are numerous enough to give you a different choice for every room in even a large house, so choosing which is best for your purposes can be no easy matter. It is wise therefore to look at each individual room rather than follow the 'one size fits all' route.

If you have wooden floor boards, have them sanded, stained and polished for a really, up-to-the-minute, different look. You could paint them some clear, bright colour. There are specially hard wearing paints available. In modern houses however, boards may have been replaced by block board or concrete which will nevertheless, give a good flat surfaces for a laminated flooring - easily available from most DIY stores.

This attractive wooden flooring can be laid easily by one person following the instructions provided by the suppliers, as long as the surface is quite flat and even.

Alternatives could be linoleum (still available though not very fashionable) or vinyl in sheets or tiles which are best laid when warm. Then there's cork, ceramic or quarry tiles, all of which give a good looking, hard wearing surface though it's worth bearing in mind the position of the floor in question. For instance, glazed ceramic tiles will lose their glaze quite quickly if they are placed near an exterior doorway that opens out onto a gritty garden. Ceramic and quarry tiles are generally cold to the touch and noisy to walk upon, so not totally suitable in bathroom or kitchen. They may not be a very secure and safe surface in a household where there is an elderly and infirm individual or a tottery child. Cork on the other hand is always warm, seldom slippery and effectively deadens sound quite efficiently though it must be sealed correctly before it is walked upon.

If a hard surface doesn't attract you then you will have to resort to carpeting of some sort and again the choice is truly huge with materials ranging from man-made to natural fibres including wool, cotton or sisal.

Carpets come in large squares, runners, tiles or broadloom rolls and can be laid wall to wall or strategically as required. Depending on your taste you may wish to go for something contemporary and plain, traditional and colourful or oriental. The material your carpet is made from should depend on where it's laid and the amount of traffic it will carry. Your supplier will be able to advise. However, it is worth remembering that the best wearing carpets are the best laid ones so it's worth considering having any carpet professionally laid. And if you do want a single colour effect throughout the house, you can go for a broadloom made in a variety of qualities. The carpet supplier will usually visit to measure up and will advise on which quality should be laid where.

Lastly, when selecting a floor or its covering, do consider how often it may need to be cleaned. Obviously the hard surfaces are easier to clean than piled surfaces but the latest carpeting is usually treated to shrug off dirt and stains so it may be this need never be a consideration.

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Furniture & Fabrics

Until you really need to go out and buy new furnishings for your home, you probably won't fully appreciate the changes in style, the wealth of design ideas and the sheer range of materials available in the shops today.

There comes a time however, when some refurbishment has to be done, when we move perhaps, or when some radical renewal of décor or internal building work has been carried out? Then it is we decide, not just to renew the decor, but to replace those familiar 'household goods' with which we have lived for so long. Then it is, we are faced with the whole cultural shock of design ideas and a range of materials and fabrics we had never thought to see. The impact is almost enough to send us scurrying back to our old, familiar homes.

However, this is what living in the second decade of the 21st century is all about. Never before has there been quite the freedom of choice, scope of inspiration or value for money in furniture and furnishing fabrics with user-friendliness, durability and eye-appeal.

Today's textiles come in man-made and natural fibres. The former have all the easy-care facilities you could possibly wish for, ready built-in. The latter will have been treated with the latest technology to make sure they too come up to scratch.

Then there are the variety of textures including smooth, chunky or deep piled. Today's fabrics don't just look good, they also have 'feel' appeal. Choose your fabrics for their impact. Have them made into curtains, blinds, cushions, lamp shades and loose covers.

When choosing furniture, yet more considerations come into play. It must look right of course. It must be of a quality that will withstand the wear and tear of everyday use. It must not cost more than one can afford and, whether it is seating or a bed, it must definitely be comfortable.

Good furniture in the shops today is a cunning integration of technology and craftsmanship. It is made from a variety of the finest woods and man-made materials where appropriate. It is built to last, to give years of hard service and, a lot of it is destined to be the collectors' antiques of tomorrow.

Built-in furniture is still a popular innovation, especially in bedrooms and kitchens. However, there is a concerted move back to free-standing pieces, and the most up-to-date homes are furnished with a subtle combination of the two.

Woods in use reflect a rising anxiety for the tropical forests that once gave us our furnishing timbers. Now the mode is for the home-grown, renewable stocks, such as walnut, beech, oak, apple, pear, pine and yew. Once again we are discovering the beauty of our home-grown timbers and displaying them at their best in our homes.

When it comes to beds however, technology has really taken over. Beds are designed to support the wide variety of body sizes, and personal tastes found in the population at large. Beds are designed to help with physical problems such as arthritis and general back problems. It is now possible for a couple to share a double bed in which one side is of a different degree of softness to the other. Materials used in today's beds include traditional flock, foams of various types and spring interiors of immense complexity, so there is truly something to suit everyone. If you are looking for new furniture and furnishing fabrics, you won't have to search too far afield to find a bewildering choice. Your only problem will be, not seeking for what you would like, but discarding what you don't because, it's pretty certain, you'll probably like all you see!

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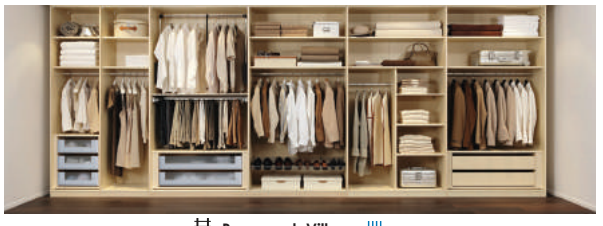

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Fires and Fireplaces

There really is nothing else that holds the appeal of an open fire. Somehow it is basic to our very appreciation of 'home' and all it stands for. In some parts of the country in fact, a fire is lit in the grate the moment a family moves into a new home, summer or winter, and often before the removers have finished their work.

Open fireplaces fell from favour in the 1960s. Grates were boarded up or taken out. Many new homes were built without chimneys or mantelpieces. The advent of universal central heating seemed to make them obsolete, and with TV becoming so important, that set provided the focal point of the sitting room.

It wasn't long before this proved a bad error of judgement from the design point of view. People who had homes without fireplaces, put false ones in. Those who owned boarded-up grates, opened them up. In smoke free areas this was not the easiest of proceedings. Before a fire could be lit, a special grate had to be installed so that smokeless fuel could be burned.

Many chimneys had deteriorated so that not only the services of a sweep were required, but builders too, had to come and find ways of lining flues so they would safely conduct the smoke and fumes away.

Then of course there was the matter of lighting the fires once they were ready. Almost a whole generation had matured without having had any experience of lighting a fire. A simple enough matter? Well not really. Lighting the fire is a skill our grandparents took for granted, but it was something a new generation had to learn from the very basics.

Needless to say, not everyone welcomed the hard work of laying, fuelling, stoking and cleaning a grate on a daily basis. We live very different lives to those of our predecessors. Many of us don't have the time for such extras. Fortunately technology has come to the rescue. The result is there are hundreds of different possibilities available, that will give your home the comforts of an open grate, without the discomforts of the extra work.

To start with, the simplest open grates are so designed that they need the minimum of attention in order to work at full efficiency. Ashes fall into specially designed trays that merely lift out without scattering the residue all over the floor. Special underfloor draught channelling helps the fire to light swiftly, keeps it burning at the correct rate and pushes the maximum of heat out into the room. New flue liners cut down on the need for frequent sweeping. And there are a whole range of fire lighting devices that make getting the blaze going a simple task in the first place.

Then there are the frankly 'fake' fires. These include coal-effect gas and electric fires, that heat instantly without any fuss, yet still give the warm appearance of the glowing coals. For a really living flame, there are the gas log fires that look so realistic you have to restrain yourself from throwing rubbish into them.

Another alternative is the solid fuel stove. There are many of these on the market today and they range in design from the frankly modern, to the reproduction antique. They mostly have see-through stove doors that allow the glow of the fire to brighten up the room yet, so efficient are they, they light and burn without any trouble, and take on minutes to clean.

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Wallcoverings & Decorating

Decorating the home usually involves changing the decor on the walls. Once upon a time this meant wallpaper. Today however, wallcoverings are made from a whole array of materials of which paper is just one. So what is there to choose from?

To begin with, the traditional wallpaper is available in a huge array of colours and patterns and, most importantly, a range of qualities. If you are hanging wallpaper for the first time, it's worth remembering that it's best to choose a quality in the mid range. The heaviest papers are very hard to handle when you have little experience. The very cheapest are so thin that they tear very easily and again, a certain amount of skill is required to achieve a good finish. Some of the papers have hard to handle finishes like flock applied designs or heavily embossed patterns. Again they are hard to hang to begin with because if the adhesive gets onto the finished surface it will spoil its appearance.

An alternative to paper is vinyl. Again this can be difficult to handle. The trick is to apply just the right amount of the right type of adhesive. There are the so-called ready pasted vinyls. These usually come with a special pan into which water is put. Once cut to size, the length is folded into the pan then drawn out and worked into place on the wall. Unfortunately this isn't quite as easy as it sounds and again requires a certain amount of practice to achieve the perfect finish.

To hang a wall covering you need a certain amount of the right equipment, and to try to decorate a wall without it is a sure way to disaster. The minimum equipment includes:- a folding paste table, brush with which to apply adhesive, brush with which to smooth wall covering to the wall, decorating scissors, edge roller to ensure the edges of the wall covering are securely pressed into place, plum bob to establish the true vertical because many walls are far from vertical, tape measure, container for adhesive, several clean, soft, clean dry cloths for all sorts of jobs, a firm pair of steps of the right height to let you reach the top of the wall without stretching. A pencil or fine pointed marker and straight edge along which to mark the cutting line are very necessary.

Even more necessary is to buy the very best equipment you can afford. For example, the cheapest paste tables are usually very flimsy affairs that wobble alarmingly when you are trying to measure, cut and paste the wall covering. You do need a table that stands firm. The scissors must be good and sharp. The brushes too should be of good quality, the one to apply adhesive slightly stiff and absorbent, the smooth brush soft and flexible.

The final requirement is the adhesive and this will depend on the type of wall covering. The old fashioned, flour and water paste is quite acceptable for light paper on dry walls. If the paper is heavy or of another materials than paper, special adhesives will be required. They come both ready mixed and in easy to mix, powder form. For walls that are in any way susceptible to damp, the adhesive should contain a fungicide for obvious reasons though a damp-proof treatment before decorating is advisable. Walls that have been re-plastered within the past six months must not be covered. It takes at least six months for plaster to dry thoroughly. The alternative in such a case is paint.

Paint comes in a variety of finishes and types. There are water based emulsions and oil based paints. They come in matt, silk or gloss. Generally speaking, unless the wall has a perfect surface, flat or silk finishes look best. Gloss is best reserved for the wooden fixings such as the door, windows and skirtings.

Paint is generally applied over an undercoat. When buying paint, always buy the recommended undercoat. In fact always follow the instructions exactly.

Decorating a room is best approached slowly and carefully. The best materials should be used and instructions followed exactly at all stages. If you haven't hung wall coverings before, or applied paint, try the smallest and least used room in the house first so that mistakes make the least impact on the rest of the house.

However, never be put off. In decorating as in everything else, practice will eventually make perfect.

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Kitchens

Up until about sixty years ago, a cooker, sink, table, cupboard, meat safe and a couple of chairs were about the best most kitchens could boast. Decor was as basic as it could be - emulsion on the walls if you were lucky, whitewash if you weren't. 'Luxury' kitchens might have white tiled walls but even these did nothing to detract from the bare, comfortless utilitarianism of the room.

Thankfully all that changed. Few average families can afford to employ domestic staff, so the position of 'cook' has but almost disappeared. So the lady, and even the man, of the house now have to carry out the cooking duties, and of course they demand a little more in the way of comfort and convenience. So from around the early 1960s the kitchen became a top priority for modernisation. Since then, many kitchens have had more than one re-fit, and still the average householder will even after fifteen years, consider a brand new kitchen, updating that room more than any other room in the house.

A great deal of design thought and effort goes into the creation of today's kitchen furniture and equipment. It is now a room to be bang up to date, to be shown off to friends, to linger in, to enjoy.

First the design. Kitchens are fitted to the space available. Go to any kitchen supplier and you will be shown a range of units in a huge variety of styles and sizes that can be fitted into virtually every shape and size of room imaginable. Most suppliers offer a free design service. The designer comes and plans the layout, you choose the styles and designs of furniture and fitments that appeal to you most. In amongst those fitments and units go the pieces of equipment you have selected - often they are supplied as part of the whole package. Split-level hobs and ovens, fridges, freezers, washing machines, dryers and dish washers are all automatically considered part of the normal kitchen. Just as automatic is the fitting of an air extractor to remove steam and cooking smells so they don't permeate through the rest of the house.

Kitchen units are also supplied in a variety of heights so they can be adapted to the height of the person who will use them most. So, whether you are four foot eleven or six foot six tall, you will be able to have the kitchen that allows you to work in comfort.

Designing a kitchen of course involves more than merely selecting the units that will fit into the space. There is the matter of the use the room will be put to. Some people will want their kitchen to double as a diner, some will want a breakfast bar, some may want it to be a food preparation area pure and simple. Then there are children to consider. Sharpcorners can damage tender heads. Unit corners these days are generally rounded and smooth. Hygiene too cannot be overlooked. Surfaces must be smooth and easy to clean. Cupboard doors and drawers must close firmly and accurately to keep out insects and dust. Storage will be plentiful and accommodating.

Finally the overall appearance is now very important. The kitchen of today must not only work efficiently and hygienically, it must also look good, so work surfaces will blend in with unit door panels and may be in rich wood or beautiful laminate veneers. Equipment and machinery will be disguised with matching panels. Work surfaces will be of hard wearing but attractive materials such as marble or tiles, which may even match those on the floor. Lighting will be variable and directional so nowhere lies in the shade. The whole room will be decorated tastefully to match.

The modern kitchen is a pleasure to work in, to be in, even to entertain in. If your kitchen doesn't quite come up to scratch, you owe it to yourself to remedy the situation. And if your kitchen still resides in the 20th century you have a veritable obligation to pull it into the nearly third decade of the 21st.

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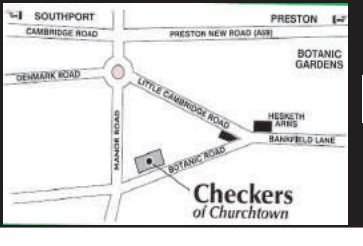

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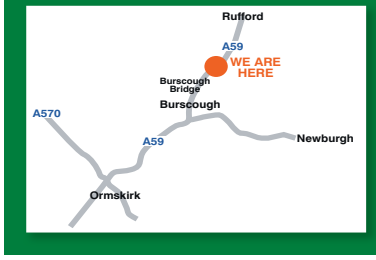

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